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Captain Robert Dollar

veteran ship-owner and builder of commerce, taking as his text a can of sardines, tells a story of American trade in the Orient which deserves the reading of every business executive in the country. It will appear in next week's issue of The Outlook.

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The Outlook

Volume 145 April 27, 1927 Number 17

Billboards and States

BILLBOARD regulation is actively facing several States as a legislative problem. The public relation to highway advertising takes two forms —the right of regulation and the imposition of taxation. An advertising regulation code in Massachusetts, formulated under the authority of a State Constitutional amendment five years old, which sanctioned the State's right to regulate and restrict "all advertising coming within public view," is being subjected to strong opposition in the courts by the billboard companies. A similar amendment, but one which specifies also the right to tax all such advertising, is to be voted on in September in Maine.

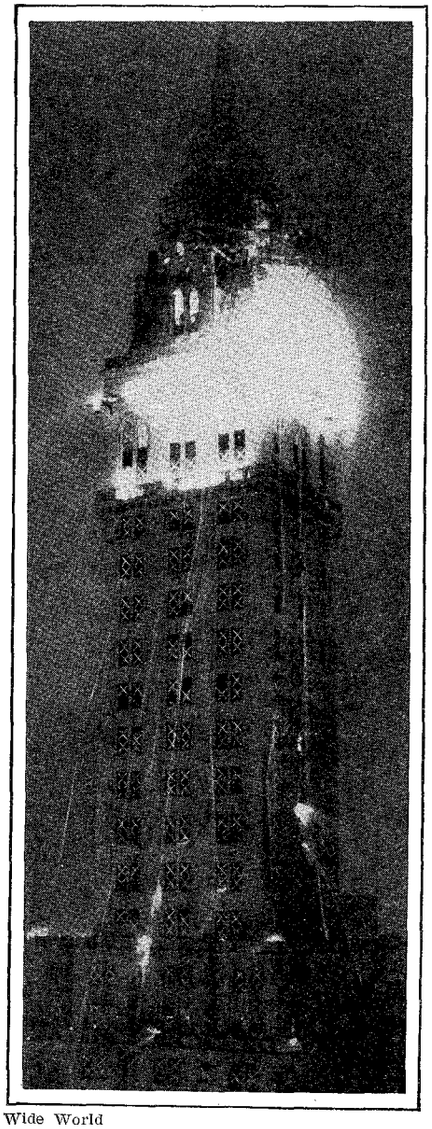
Vermont and Connecticut impose a tax of three cents a square foot on billboard advertising. In both States the billboard advertising interests are favoring substitute legislation which would lighten the payments of the advertising companies to the States. Various important Connecticut civic organizations protested vigorously against the substitution in their State. Billboard taxation legislation was introduced in the last legislative session in Missouri and New York, and agitation for such legislation is gaining momentum in New Jersey.

The propriety of such taxation was lucidly set forth by the New York Superintendent of Public Works, Colonel Frederick Stuart Greene, in a report to the Legislature: "Such a tax is recommended, not only to produce revenue, but also to lessen the number of unsightly signs which are now a blot upon the scenery of this State. Aside from this æsthetic point, a sign tax is eminently just. As every one knows, a dirt road has no advertising value; but after the State has expended $50,000 and more a mile to convert a dirt road into an improved highway traffic is immediately attracted, and signs inevitably follow the traffic. Advertising companies thus reap, without any return to the State, a benefit which the State has provided through expenditure of millions of dollars."

Or, according to a pronouncement on behalf of the Connecticut Merchants' Association, "We tax the motorist, the motor, the driver, and the gasoline; why not the advertisers who are getting their advantage from the fine roadways?"

New York's Crown Fire

A CROWN fire is the most deadly menace that the forest knows. Driven before a high wind, the flames leap from tree-top to tree-top beyond the reach of the pygmy efforts of the fire-fighters. A crown fire it was which made a blazing torch of one of New York's latest skyscraper hotels. Somewhere near the clouds, the scaffolding of the Sherry-Netherland Hotel, still in the final stage of construction, at the corner of 59th Street and Fifth Avenue, caught fire, and for hours the throngs in the street below gathered to watch one of the most spectacular blazes in the history of New York. The standpipe designed to carry water to the upper stories failed in operation. Hose carried from below burst at crucial moments or delivered a sickly stream upon the falling embers. The firemen of New York's splendid department were as helpless in checking the fire as forest rangers are when the flames sweep down upon them, borne by the wings of a gale.



Wide World

A torch in the night

The scaffolding of the lofty tower of the new Sherry-Netherland Apartment Hotel is shown ablaze against the sky of New York

After many hours the fire burned itself out, and when the morning came the tall tower of the great hotel remained standing, virtually uninjured. Even the flag at its summit still flew in the breeze. Those who had witnessed the fire the night before rubbed their eyes in amazement at the sight. As a matter of fact, the sight was no more astonishing than the continued existence of a stove after it has served to cook an evening meal. A skyscraper, like a stove, is fireproof in its essential elements, but inflammable substances will burn as freely in a skyscraper as they will in a stove.

Doubtless the Sherry-Netherland fire will afford a valuable lesson to builders and fire departments and result in some changes in construction codes and regulations. Though it afforded a splendid spectacle for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers, there are cheaper ways of providing fireworks for the populace than burning up skyscraper scaffolding.

Flood and Storm

WHEN a tornado lays waste a town, as was the case on April 12 at Rock Springs, a Texas agricultural community of some eight or nine hundred people, about 50 of whom were killed and 150 injured, there is no question possible as to how the cause of such catastrophes may be controlled in the future. The effects may be minimized by proper building, but the practical problem is one of succoring the injured, feeding the survivors, burying the dead, and in time restoring normal conditions. In this case all this was done with energy and promptness.

But when one reads that the Mississippi River is once more raging from Cairo to the Gulf; that for hundreds of miles dikes are threatened; that some levees have broken and others have been overflowed; that the Red Cross estimates that 25,000 people have been driven from their homes in Arkansas, Missouri, and Kentucky; that inestima-

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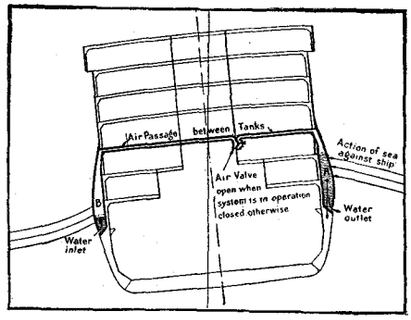
ble damage has been done to fertile lands; and that this is but a repetition of what happened in 1912 and 1922—with all this before him, the ordinary layman will ask whether the efforts to control the mighty floods of the Mississippi and its tributaries are not susceptible of improvement. Enormous sums have been spent by the bordering States and the Federal Government; but still the floods devastate, the farmers flee, vast areas are covered with mud and silt. Some critics say that it is a mistake to carry the stream above a natural level, supported in the air, as it were, by built-up levees, and that the remedy is in enormous dams, artificial lakes, and control of water-levels thereby. The cost question is serious and the proportion in which it should be borne as between States and the Federal Government not easy to fix. One thing is certain; that the present situation is one of constant danger and impending damage.

Germany Adds Another Ship

Two weeks ago The Outlook cited the principle by which the German merchant marine expects to regain an important place in shipping: that when available carrying capacity exceeds the demand for it the best ships, those that are most modern, will be the ones to survive. As if to drive home the point, the New York, of the Hamburg-American Line, has arrived since then, on her maiden voyage, in the port whose name she carries. The New York is modern because she is one of the growing fleet of ships which meet a definite demand by approximating—in this case in a ship of 21,500 tons—the luxury of ships twice



as large, but without the added cost charged for speed.

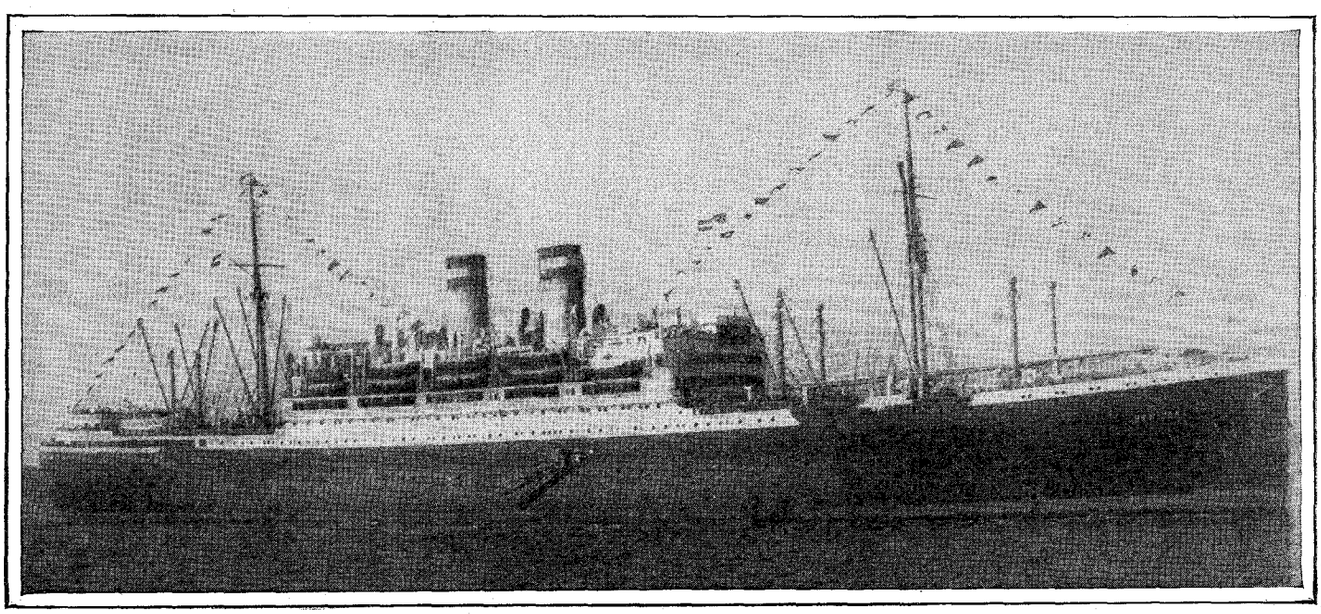
The New York is not a ship to move Masefield's nautical muse. She is not an "ocean greyhound." Call her rather a strong, capable Eskimo "husky." Her sides and stern are bulging and rounded. But what she lacks in the grace of ships with half again as much speed she amply makes up in "service"—meeting a need in the best possible manner. Her accommodations appeared to the visiting eyes of The Outlook to excel in comfort and tasteful simplicity the largest transatlantic boats. The application of the supremacy-of-the-seas principle to the New York seems to be to make her a highly desirable place to spend the ten days required for her trips between New York and Hamburg.

Not the least of the German contributions to voyage comfort—and the explanation of the New York's fat sides—is the Frahm anti-rolling tank system, which is the subject of the accompanying diagram, and which three other new German ships use. The tanks extend along two-thirds of the length of the ship, with a series of slots at the bottom admitting sea water from below the water-line. When the action of the sea against one side of the ship causes it to list to the other side, the opposite tank is full of air, which helps buoy the opposite side; but the water in the tank on the side which is higher runs slowly out—the tank action lags behind the rolling—and, by admitting air across the passage, lets the lower-side tank—"B" in the diagram—take in water while its vent is deep under the surface. But when the "B" side has risen, and the ship has rolled to the opposite side from the diagram, the water then in its tank cannot all flow out of the vent again before the sudden rise of that side takes place; and consequently the "B" tank holds a volume of water to weigh down that side, while the "A" tank, now empty of water but slowly filling, buoys the other side. The result is less pronounced rolling in the trough of the sea—and that is a result for which many a voyager would willingly sacrifice greyhound grace.

With Wings Buffeted Man Flies on

The race to fly between New York and Paris goes on undaunted, despite discouraging mishaps of the past few weeks. Commander Byrd and his two flying companions, heroes for their achievements and their spirit, were wrecked as passengers of Anthony Fokker on the first trial flight of the plane in which they soon would have "taken off" for France. Their injuries and those to the machine postpone indefinitely the possibility of their continuing.

But their principal rival, Lieutenant-Commander Noel E. Davis, has made very satisfactory flights with his big biplane, and he may be expected to embark on the long transatlantic trail at any time after the first of May. The



Wide World

Made in Germany

The New York, the newest ship of the Hamburg-American Line, completes her maiden voyage to the port for which she was named

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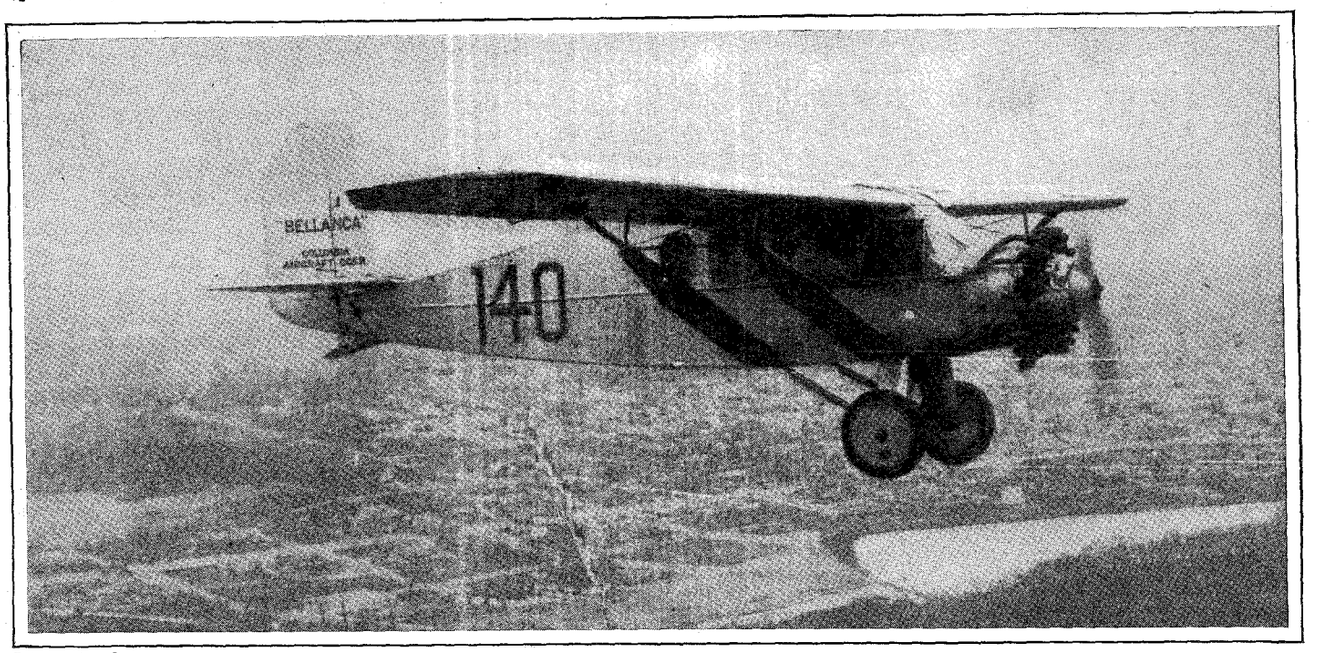

International

The Bellanca plane on its record-breaking flight of over fifty-one hours

backers of the Bellanca monoplane, flushed with the success of its recent record-breaking endurance flight of fifty-one hours, have announced their intention of sending it on the way to Paris as soon as they hear of the flight of any of the other contenders. Despite the fact that their pilots are less experienced in navigation and less familiar with the conditions they will meet on the flight than are Commander Davis and Commander Byrd, they are confident that their smaller, speedier plane will be able to reach Paris, and to reach it before their rivals. Meanwhile, in France, five competitors are hoping to reach New York before an American plane arrives in Paris. Two famous war fliers, Nungesser and Coli, have made advanced tests of their machine and seem to be the nearest ready.

Not from any of the Titan forces of the air, but from a cigarette match carelessly thrown away, came destruction to Commander Francesco de Pinedo's great seaplane and defeat to his plan for flying it back to Italy, whence it had traversed rough airways all the way to the Roosevelt Dam in Arizona. The ship had conquered the air, but it was conquered by the heedlessness of an unconcerned stranger while the plane was moored, out of its element.

F. Trubee Davison, the Assistant Secretary of War in charge of aeronautics, worthily represented the Nation by offering Commander de Pinedo an army plane to use for continuing his flight. But the intrepid Fascist aviator prefers to wait for a machine similar to the Santa Maria to be shipped to him from Italy. He has no thought of giving up his flight. The machine was destroyed, but the men who animated it are ready to go on.

Who Shall Decide: Law or Censor?

THE so-called gentlemen's agreement between Boston booksellers and at least two successive District Attorneys was doubtless intended to prevent injustice and inconvenience. Under that understanding, whenever the District Attorney considered that a certain book violated the law of the State against "obscenity and indecency," he notified the booksellers that if they continued to sell the book in question he would institute criminal action. Thus the booksellers had their choice between stopping the sale or fighting in the courts. As the State law includes a penalty of possible imprisonment, publishers and booksellers in most cases chose compliance even above valuable publicity.

But lately this plan has been called unauthorized censorship; the District Attorney has been flooded with books as to which his opinion was asked; his supposed adviser, the Watch and Ward Society, has in one case declared a book quite all right the sale of which he had stopped by the notice and threat method. So, as we understand it, he has retired to the strict legal position; he will no longer issue threat notices; each bookseller must judge and act for himself; charges of law violation will be instituted, as in other matters, on complaint and evidence that the law has been violated.

It is always difficult to enforce laws that involve questions of opinion. If judge and jury say that a book is indecent, their decision stands unless overthrown on appeal. The opinion of a society, or of a reader, or even of a district attorney, is not conclusive. If the definition in the statute of what is indecent is too loose (or too tight), the remedy is in amending the law.

Among the authors on whose books the Boston District Attorney has lately been asked to pass are H. G. Wells, Theodore Dreiser, May Sinclair, Sinclair Lewis, Warwick Deeping, Robert W. Service, John Erskine, Carl Van Vechten, and Anne Douglas Sedgwick. Attempts to get the police to buy Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter" and the complete works of William Shakespeare, and to pass thereon, were foiled.

If each of these authors could have his day in court, what an elegant symposium their views on the question at issue would make!

Defeating Diphtheria

THE "toxin anti-toxin" treatment for the prevention of diphtheria seems to be strengthening its lines. The latest reports indicate this. Toxin anti-toxin is a combination, as the name indicates, of both the toxin which diphtheria bacteria give off and the anti-toxin which some bodies naturally form in a sufficient quantity to counteract it. Toxin anti-toxin is used in preference to pure toxin because it gives a less severe reaction and is equally stimulating to the production of anti-toxin by the recipient's body.

The use of the combination dates back to 1903, when Dr. W. H. Park, of New York, applied it to horses for the production of a supply of anti-toxin. As

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far previous to that as 1890 other experimenters had developed the anti-toxin for the diphtheria bacillus, which had been discovered in 1884. By 1914 the diphtheria toxin anti-toxin had been so far standardized that its practical application to 90,000 children in New York City was begun by Dr. Park and Dr. Zingher. Subsequent observation of those children and of 90,000 who had not been given the immunization treatment showed four times as many cases of diphtheria appearing among the unimmunized as among the immunized.

Likewise in Pennsylvania the toxin anti-toxin mixture is being adopted. The results which are being obtained are indicated by these statistics of the United States Public Health Service: In the twenty years ending with 1925 diphtheria deaths had numbered 36,566, whooping-cough deaths 19,201. In the first eight months of 1926 the deaths from those diseases had been in the ratio of diphtheria, 549; whooping-cough, 711.

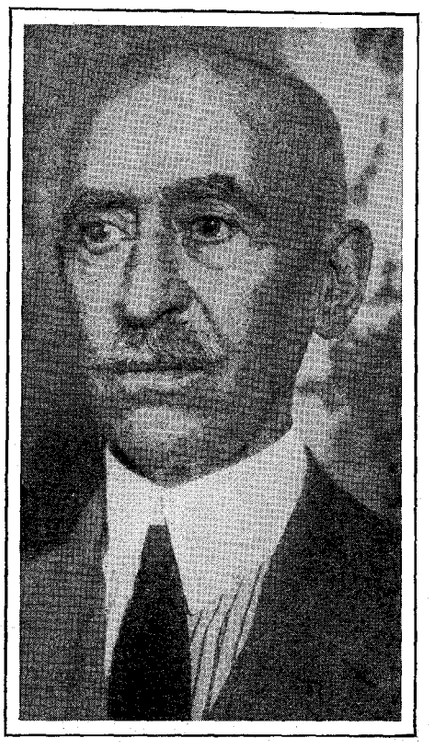
The best record is that of Auburn, New York, a city of 35,000 population. The years from 1915 to 1922, inclusive, had an average of nine diphtheria deaths. In the latter year an intensive toxin anti-toxin campaign was waged. After that, and before sufficient time had elapsed for the inoculated persons to form their own anti-toxin, stimulated by the injections, there were four more deaths. But since March 9, 1924, there have been none in the city.

The "Schick test," a familiar term in connection with diphtheria, is not a means of protection. It is simply a test to determine whether or not a person is protected against diphtheria. Since experience has shown that the vast majority of children are not protected naturally, its general use is being abandoned, according to the New York State Department of Health. Of the "T-A"—toxin anti-toxin—three injections, a week apart, are usually necessary. The protection they give develops slowly—over a matter of months—but apparently continues throughout life.

These results give encouragement that diphtheria may be completely eliminated.

General Crowder's Retirement

GENERAL ENOCH H. CROWDER is soon to retire as American Ambassador to Cuba. But his departure will be more than that of a diplomatic representative. His position in Cuba has been counselor, peacemaker, and sponsor of orderly government. He has played a very strong part in shaping Cuba's history since 1920.

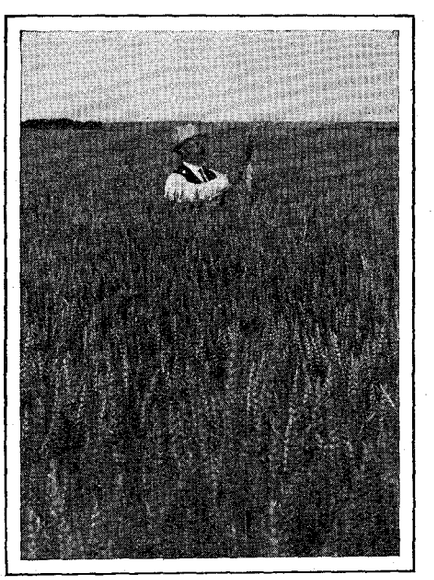


Keystone

Major-General Enoch Crowder, American Ambassador at Havana, asks to be relieved

General Crowder's Cuban career has been supplemental to an outstanding record in the Army. He was graduated by the United States Military Academy in 1881. Five years later he took the degree of LL.B. at the University of Missouri, where he had been serving as commandant. This legal training influenced his service in the Army toward legal duties. He became Judge-Advocate General of the Army in 1911. But before that he had acted as observer with the Japanese army in Manchuria in 1904–5, he had filled the position of Secretary of State and Justice in Cuba from 1906 to 1908 during the American intervention, he had been a delegate to the fourth Pan-American Conference in 1910, and he had visited Chile on a special mission. So to his military and legal training was added experience with diplomacy and with Latin America, and with Cuba in particular. The World War called General Crowder to his outstanding accomplishment—the administration of the machinery of conscription.

Because of violence and other improper methods employed in the Cuban election of 1916, which had led to civil disturbances, General Crowder was invited to Cuba in 1919 to draft a new electoral law. Because the new law was flagrantly disregarded in 1920, General Crowder went again to Cuba—this time as President Wilson's personal representative—and brought order out of chaos by calling upon the courts to do their duty and by mediating among rival candidates. Later, as President Harding's representative, General Crowder proposed reforms to the Zayas Government which were successfully carried out; and he was instrumental in arranging an American loan which was necessary to buoy up Cuban financial conditions in January, 1923. In March, 1923, he became Ambassador. The functions of that office have not prevented him from continuing to exercise a wise and strong influence in the interest of Cuba's peace and progress.



In the campaign against latitude

Red Fife

THE northward extension of the world's cereal-growing areas has been further advanced through the development by the Canadian Government Experimental Farm at Ottawa of a new variety of wheat, called Garnet, which matures from five to ten days earlier than Marquis, which has been hitherto, and in some respects still is, the highest achievement in cereal culture.

The history of the line of Canadian wheat which has carried the harvest line farther north with the years began about 1842, when a farmer named David Fife, living in Ontario, received a package from Scotland containing a Scotch bonnet filled with wheat. Fife, being a thrifty soul, planted the wheat, but was disappointed when it proved to be a winter variety unsuitable for Canada. None of it ripened except three heads, evidently grown from a single seed of spring wheat that had become mixed with the rest. These heads contained heavy, well-developed kernels; and Fife kept them carefully for planting the following season. The new wheat proved to be remarkably prolific, to have excellent milling and baking

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qualities, and to be more than usually free from rust. The neighbors soon became aware of Fife's discovery, and came to him for their seed. It spread over Ontario, and when the great plains of the West were opened up they were sown principally to Red Fife, as it came to be known.

Pushing the Wheat Line Farther North

Red Fife had one serious defect for the more northerly portions of the wheat belt. It took just a little too long to mature; and whenever there was an early fall the loss was heavy through frost. The discovery of Marquis wheat came as the result of a long series of experiments in cross-breeding carried on by Dr. William Saunders, the Dominion Cerealist, and his son Charles, who succeeded him. It was developed from a cross between Red Fife and an early-maturing Indian wheat, the name of which is not on record. Marquis proved to be even more prolific than Red Fife; it matured from six to twelve days earlier; and it was superior also in milling and baking qualities. The great bulk of the wheat now grown on the Canadian prairies and in the spring wheat regions of the Western United States is Marquis.

The cerealists of the Canadian Government did not stop with Marquis. It had pushed back the frost-line a considerable distance; but there still remained a vast region of waving grass-lands which might yet come under the plow if a variety of wheat could be perfected requiring just a few days less in which to mature.

Then came Garnet, which for the present represents the greatest development. Following exhaustive tests running over many years, L. H. Newman, the present Dominion Cerealist, has recently issued a bulletin giving the results of the experiments to date. Garnet is found to be practically the equal of Marquis in yield, and, of course, superior in those districts where early maturity is essential. It is somewhat heavier than Marquis, averaging 64.1 pounds a bushel to Marquis's 62.7 over a twelve-year period of observation at Ottawa.

Summing the matter up, we find that a steady advance has been made from Red Fife, through Marquis, to Garnet, in the direction of pushing back the frost-line in what Stefansson has termed "the northward course of empire."

Japan's Financial Crisis

On April 6, Suzuki & Co., of Kobe, Japan, failed, with the liabilities amounting to some 500,000,000 yen—perhaps the world's record in commercial failures.

Underwood & Underwood

Ramsay MacDonald, ex-Premier of Great Britain, arrives with his daughter for an American visit

A week later, on the 17th, the Wakatsuki Cabinet tendered its resignation over the failure of its financial relief measure under the veto of the Privy Council. At the same time the semi-Governmental Bank of Taiwan (Formosa) closed its doors at least for three weeks.

A financial surgical operation, more than half a dozen years overdue, is at last to be performed. The occasion calls, not for a panicky anxiety, but really for a sigh of relief.

Suzuki & Co., Ltd., of Kobe, was the chief among the war brides of Japan. Mme. Yone Suzuki, the head and practical owner of the great establishment, was not only the richest woman in Japan at the time, but also one of the richest women in the world. The World War boom alone netted her, so a report ran, more than 100,000,000 yen.

The Bank of Taiwan is the semi-Governmental institution established in 1897, with its head office at Taihoku, the chief city of Formosa. It is the central bank of the island. It was created for financing the trade and industries of the Japanese colony, famous for its undeveloped resources. It started with the modest authorized capital of 5,000,000 yen, which was gradually increased to 60,000,000 yen in 1919—at the peak of war prosperity. The bank is authorized to issue bank notes against gold and silver and Government bonds in its possession—but in Formosa only. It handles the Government receipts and disbursements in Formosa as the agent of the Bank of Japan.

For years the Suzuki interests have been operating extensively in Formosan sugar, which is the most important industry of the island, practically monopolizing it. The company has been handling the Government monopoly in camphor. Naturally enough, the Bank of Taiwan is the chief creditor of Suzuki & Co. In addition to the Suzuki failure, its troubles were seriously aggravated by the disposition of so-called earthquake notes. The Governmental measure to support the bank with a loan of 200,000,000 yen was in connection with these earthquake notes.

But the real cause of Japan's financial crisis appears to lie deeper than in the mere failure of a company or than even the distress of a semi-Governmental bank. It is to be found in the frozen credit, which has buried the banking machinery of Nippon as under a glacier. Japan has not deflated her war inflation at the end of eight years after the war.

There is, however, one happy thing about it all. The Suzuki failure is probably not the beginning, but rather the end of a series of failures. The new Cabinet, which Baron Tanaka heads, will, it has been announced in Japan, immediately go to the help of the Bank of Taiwan.

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What's All This About China?

THE Foreign Editor was meditating an editorial on the latest developments of the situation in China when his wife—supposedly absorbed in the book column of the morning paper—looked up and asked, "What's all this about China?"

The Editor pulled himself together rapidly and executed a general countermaneuver: "What do you mean—all this?"

"Why, these attacks on Americans and Englishmen—what's the reason for them? There's a war there, isn't there?"

"Yes—there's quite a little war. The attacks on foreigners have happened in connection with the internal struggle to"—

"Oh, I know—that's between the North and the South, isn't it?"

"In a general way, yes. It's between factions, for control of the country. The Nationalist Party—the one you see referred to as the Kuomingtang—on one side had headquarters at Canton, in South China, at the time when it started a campaign against the militarists in power at Peking, in North China. But it has followers more or less all through the country."

"They're the Reds, aren't they?"

"Well, some of them are; and they're often called that in the news reports. There really are three divisions in the party—conservatives, moderates, and radicals. It's the radicals who are the so-called Reds—the Communistic wing."

"The Bolsheviks are backing them, aren't they?"

"They've taken a great part in building up the radical organization—yes. But it wouldn't be at all accurate to call all the Nationalists 'Reds'—even though Soviet Russia has given aid and advice to the Nationalists generally, with the aim of making trouble for the other foreign Powers in China."

"Is that the reason for these attacks on Americans?"

"Partly; but the dislike of foreigners always has been common in China."

"I guess it must be a good deal like the United States. We don't see much of foreigners, and so we don't understand them or like them—much."

"There's a lot in that. China used to be a country closed to foreigners, you know, and the Western nations had more or less to force the way for trade and missionary work by special treaty agreements. From time to time there have been uprisings against foreigners, long before this present trouble. The Boxer riots, back around 1900, were a case of that sort. You remember when the United States and the European Powers and Japan had to send expeditions to rescue their citizens in the siege of Peking. It's an old story in China."

"Why don't they like the foreigners now?"

"Well, many of them feel that the foreigners look down on the natives and have treated them badly. And the Chinese don't like the concessions and privileges that the old Imperial Government gave foreigners, exempting them from Chinese law and allowing control of the tariffs."

"What ever became of the Emperor?"

"The Emperor? Why, the 'Boy Emperor,' so-called—the heir to the throne—was confined for many years in the Imperial City at Peking, after the Manchu dynasty was overthrown in the Revolution in 1911."

"Oh, yes, I remember. Well, then, they have a republic?"

"They set up a republic after the Revolution, under the leadership of the founder of the Nationalist Party—Sun Yat-sen. You probably recall hearing his name?"

"Sun Yat-sen? It makes me think of Sen-Sen."

There was a slight pause for reflection on both sides of the table. Then:

"Is he President?"

"Sun Yat-sen? He's dead. He only acted as executive temporarily, and another man became the first regular President."

"Who's President now?"

"That's what they're trying to find out in the civil war. There isn't any President now. You see, after the Republic was established, a strong military leader named Yuan Shih-kai got command of the Government and appointed his chieftains as rulers of provinces all through the country and tried to make himself Emperor. There was a Nationalist movement against him. He died—it's been rumored that he was poisoned. After his death no one seemed to be strong enough to control the country long. Various military governors and generals have tried to exercise power, and there have been wars between factions and many changes of government at Peking. Meanwhile Sun Yat-sen established headquarters of the Nationalist Party—the Kuomingtang—at Canton, and organized an administration claiming to be the rightful Government of China. Finally, one crafty military chief got the upper hand in North China, and he heads the other Northern militarists and really runs the emergency Government at Peking—Marshal Chang Tso-lin, of Manchuria. It's against him and his followers that the Nationalists are fighting."

"What's the difference between them?"

"Well, the militarists are a pretty reactionary lot; and they raise funds by appropriating the national and provincial revenues and letting their soldiers loot. They would run a government on despotic lines, probably. The Nationalists are a mixed group, but in general they want a constitutional central government and a considerable degree of local self-government for the provinces."

"Who's winning?"

"It's hard to tell now. The Nationalists were winning. They had advanced from the South and gained command of the Yangtze River in central China and set up their capital in Hankow and captured the port of Shanghai. That's a good deal as if a party in San Francisco started a war against a military government in Washington, and succeeded in crossing the Rockies and winning control of the Mississippi River, and set up a capital in St. Louis and captured New Orleans."

"But they're not winning any more?"

"No; there's been a split between the moderate group on one side, headed by their general, Chiang Kai-shek, and the radicals on the other—the Reds. The moderates now have headquarters at Shanghai, and the radicals at Hankow."

"I see."

"Nothing more?"

"I don't think so."

"Don't want to know the reason for the split?"

"Oh, it seems to me they always split. I'll bet it's no sensible reason. It never is."

"Well, it seems to be partly over the general policies of the party—whether they should be Communistic or democratic—and over the attitude to be taken toward foreigners."

"What's the United States got to do with it all?"

"We've had naval forces in China, under treaty agreements, to safeguard business and missionary interests there. And since the attacks on foreigners began we've sent additional forces and rescued some people who were in danger at Nanking—one missionary was killed—and asked other Americans to come out to Shanghai, where they can be protected."

"Well, of course we ought to do that. People's lives ought to be secure."

"Do you think we ought to guard them wherever they are?"

"No. I think that in a war like that they ought to be called out, as the Government has done; and if they don't come they stay on at their own risk.

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To save your ship from wreck

(Two Gentlemen of Verona, Act I, Scene 1)

Orr in the Chicago Tribune

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Escaping from the foreigners

From O. B. Nelson, Kendallville, Ind.

Sykes in the Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger

Oil

From D. S. Imrie, New York, N. Y.

Orr in the Chicago Tribune

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The nervous passenger

From O. B. Nelson, Kendallville, Ind.

Ireland in the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch

It seems reasonable

From Paul E. Pendleton, Westerville, Ohio

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But the Chinese ought to give them a chance to come out safely."

"How about business interests and property? Do you think we ought to protect them?"

"I don't see how we can protect business during a war. Of course, any property that can be reached might be guarded. But it seems a good deal like being caught in a hurricane. You have to wait till it's over and then straighten things out. It sounds to me as if the people doing business in China were just out of luck, for the time being."

It struck the Foreign Editor, thinking over the conversation, that the needed editorial explaining the situation in China had been outlined.

The Marshall-Smith Correspondence

GOVERNOR ALFRED E. SMITH'S reply to Charles C. Marshall will be a historic document. It will not prevent the American people from raising the question of ecclesiastical control over government whenever occasion inclines them to do so; but it will remain as a standard by which both public men about whom such a question may revolve and their critics will be judged. It should forever make it impossible for the form of a public man's religious faith to become a political issue in this country. It is statesmanlike in its simplicity, in its transparent genuineness, in its freedom from every vestige of personal impatience or irritability, and in the dignity and directness of its style. In every respect it is worthy to stand beside other landmarks in the history of American progress.

By raising the question whether loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church is consistent with loyalty to the United States Mr. Marshall in his "Open Letter to the Hon. Alfred E. Smith," printed originally in the "Atlantic Monthly" for April, has done a public service. He has succeeded in making that question, heretofore too much associated with bigotry, a National question of strictly political significance. By the form in which he put the question he has made it possible for a Roman Catholic to answer without seeming to heed unworthy imputations.

Mr. Marshall admits as true "that a loyal and conscientious Roman Catholic could and would discharge his oath of office with absolute fidelity to his moral standards;" but he proceeds to give his reasons for stating that "those moral standards differ essentially from the moral standards of all men not Roman Catholics." In the first place, he quotes authorities to support his contention that the Roman Catholic Church allows toleration of other religious societies not by right but by favor; that in the twilight zone between Church and State where the question arises as to what is spiritual and what is civil, the Roman Catholic doctrine is that the Church prevails; that, in particular, the claims of the Roman Catholic Church conflict with those of the State in education and in marriage; and that the claims of the Roman Catholic Church of sovereign jurisdiction "over all men in spiritual affairs without regard to their assent" may raise grave international issues, as, for example, in the United States' relations with Mexico. Citing some of the record of the Roman Catholic Church in England, Mr. Marshall asked whether that record was consistent, in Governor Smith's opinion, with the peace and safety of the State.

Governor Smith has replied, not as a candidate for office, but as an American citizen. He declares that his experience leads him to know that there is no conflict between religious loyalty to the Catholic faith and patriotic loyalty to the United States; that there is no conflict between his official duties and his religious belief. On matters involving Church law he consulted very sagaciously with a Catholic priest known to the country as the Chaplain of the 165th Regiment in the World War—Father Francis P. Duffy, whose patriotism has been both officially and popularly recognized. And sagaciously too he has provided his own summary of his answer, which is as follows:

I summarize my creed as an American Catholic:

I believe in the worship of God according to the faith and practice of the Roman Catholic Church. I recognize no power in the institutions of my Church to interfere with the operations of the Constitution of the United States or the enforcement of the law of the land.

I believe in absolute freedom of conscience for all men and in equality of all churches, all sects and all beliefs before the law as a matter of right and not as a matter of favor.

I believe in the absolute separation of Church and State and in the strict enforcement of the provisions of the Constitution that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

I believe that no tribunal of any church has any power to make any decree of any force in the law of the land other than to establish the status of its own communicants within its own church.

I believe in the support of the public school as one of the corner-stones of American liberty. I believe in the right of every parent to choose whether his child shall be educated in the public school or in a religious school supported by those of his own faith.

I believe in the principle of non-interference by this country in the internal affairs of other nations and that we should stand steadfastly against any such interference by whomsover it may be urged.

And I believe in the common brotherhood of man under the common fatherhood of God.

In this spirit I join with fellow-Americans of all creeds in a fervent prayer that never again in this land will any public servant be challenged because of the faith in which he has tried to walk humbly with his God.

More important, however, than any statement in this summary is his citation and approbation of statements rejecting as usurpation any attempt of priest, bishop, Pope, or even general council to rule in matters civil and political or to encroach in the least upon the Constitution.

In Mr. Marshall's letter there were in effect two questions. One of these concerns the political power and claims of the Roman Catholic Church. The other concerns the personal loyalty of the American Roman Catholic, Alfred E. Smith. Concerning the first, Governor Smith could not authoritatively answer. He cited the views on that subject of those high in the counsels of the Church, but neither he nor any other layman, nor any prelate, could answer with finality. But concerning his own position his answer was explicit, and ought to be final. The only question in that respect is whether Governor Smith has spoken in good faith. On that there can be no profitable discussion. On our part, we accept his words as the genuine, honest statement of a patriotic American.

But his answer is more than an answer concerning his own position; it also should serve as a warning and challenge to whoever may hold the views which Mr. Marshall has attributed to the Roman Catholic Church. Governor Smith could not state by his personal authority what the Church's position is; but he has stated what it ought to be. That the Roman Catholic Church has been a political power and is to-day a political power cannot be disputed. It is not unlikely that the greatest service of Governor Smith's letter will be in its influence upon all ecclesiastics, whether they are Roman Catholic or Protestant, who confuse religious faith with political power.

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Titian Comes to Town

By LAWRENCE F. ABBOTT

Contributing Editor of The Outlook

A MILLION dollars is a cabalistic phrase in New York. Let it be said that a house, or a jewel, or a tapestry, or a picture, has cost somebody a million dollars, and a thousand people will rush to see it and gaze on it with awe.

This is what happened lately at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. That splendid institution recently acquired a hitherto comparatively unknown portrait by Titian; the Trustees announced that funds for its purchase would come from the Frank A. Munsey bequest; and the newspapers capped the climax by intimating that the portrait was worth a million dollars, or, at any rate, that the nabob Rothschild once offered that sum for another of the canvases painted by the great Venetian. Here was an "open sesame," and scores visited the Museum who had perhaps never been inside its portals before.

Some observers find this depressing and affect to believe that it is a prostitution of Art to Plutocracy. But is this true? Did not some of the curiosity seekers who, dazzled by the glare of a million dollars, went to worship the tainted dollar remain to receive their first real impression of painted beauty?

As a matter of fact, the portrait of the Duke of Ferrara did not cost the Museum anything like a million dollars, but it may easily be worth that sum if it can teach New Yorkers what money, wisely expended, can do for art and beauty. When it was painted, Venice, of which Titian was an adopted citizen and where he learned his trade, was the New York of the Italian Renaissance. It was a city of merchant princes, bankers, and politicians. They loved money, but they also loved beauty, and they spent the money made by their shrewdly conducted trading ventures in making Venice, what it still is to-day, one of the most picturesque cities in the world.

"The whole purpose of Venice," says the chief English biographer of Titian, "lay in the transmission of merchandise from the East to the West and *vice versa* by the inland seas." Its wealthy merchants knew gems, silks, satins, velvets, furs, and brocades at first hand.

It is no wonder that the painters they employed to make their public and private portraits learned how to paint the sheen of satin and the texture and color of velvet better than any other painters the world has known. "Only Titian," says Bryson Burroughs, of the Metropolitan Museum, speaking of the newly acquired portrait of the Duke of Ferrara, "could have painted the deep crimson velvet of the doublet, the soft fur of the collar, the liquid blue of the sapphire, and the glint of the pendant pearl on his chest. Surely our picture is one of his great achievements."

Titian was a country boy, born in 1477, or thereabouts (for dates were not very exact in those days), in the little Alpine village of Cadore in the Venetian republic. Even to-day this mountain hamlet is twenty miles from the nearest railway station. His full name was Tiziano Vicelli, but the Italians of his period were accustomed to use the baptismal rather than the family cognomen in speaking of their famous countrymen. Thus Alighieri is known as Dante and Buonarrotti as Michelangelo.

Titian was sent to Venice as a mere boy to learn "the trade" of an artist. In those days a long and arduous apprenticeship was considered as necessary in art as in industry. Unlike the modern "cubists," the artists of the Renaissance believed a knowledge of anatomy and draughtsmanship to be the very basis of good painting.

Titian began his art life as a worker in mosaics, but soon turned his attention to painting. He introduced novelties into the technique of his art, such as mixing varnish with his colors and laying on his paint in broad smears with his thumb instead of a brush when he wished to produce a certain effect. He apparently believed in the sound doctrine that no amount of inspiration or intuitive genius is a substitute for painstaking labor. A contemporary says of him:

> He laid in his pictures with a mass of colors which served him as a groundwork for what he wanted to express. I myself have seen such powerful strokes swept in by him with solid pigment, sometimes with pure "terra rossa" [red ocher]—and this served him for the half-tones—sometimes with a brush full of white lead; and with the same brush dipped in red, black, or yellow he picked out the lights. In four strokes he had sketched in a remarkably beautiful figure. Then he laid the picture against the wall, and left it there, often for several months, without looking at it again, and when he wanted to work at it he examined it very critically, as if it were his mortal enemy, in order to discover any possible faults. . . . Then he took away a prominence here, set an arm straight there, and got a foot into the right position. So by degrees he brought his figures to the most perfect symmetry, and then he proceeded to do the same with the next picture.

In many respects Titian's career is without a parallel in the history of art. The span of his productive life is unprecedented. He lived to be ninety-nine years of age, and painted steadily and laboriously for nearly three-quarters of a century. Vasari says that he visited Titian in 1566, when the artist was in his ninetieth year, and "found him, notwithstanding his great age, brushes in hand, painting"—a notable example of the capacity of the human body and the human brain.

The College Entrance Problem—and a Solution

ONLY a short time ago a conference between secondary schools and colleges on college entrance would not have got very far. There would have been anything but a spirit of co-operation. Until very recently these two groups of institutions could see their problem only from opposing angles, with little practical attempt on the part of one to understand the conditions facing the other. Many schools, rightly, no doubt, were beginning to feel that the College Entrance Board examinations, invaluable as they have been, have in their present form outlived their usefulness and are gradually causing the schools to become little more than machines for getting pupils through examinations. On the other hand, rightly enough too, the colleges insisted on the need for examinations, not only to hold weak schools up to the mark, but to aid in weeding out the unfit from the increasing army of college candidates.

Last spring, on behalf of an anonymous corporation interested in such things, the writer visited a number of schools scattered from Brookline to Dayton, and south to Philadelphia, selecting schools that seemed to represent different principles and policies, in order to find if there were any common opinion regarding this serious question of

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college entrance. Two or three of these schools were supposed to be markedly "progressive;" several were held to be just as positively "conservative;" while others came between these alleged extremes. Two were great city high schools; the others were private academies. Some were for boys only, some for girls only, some were co-educational; some were for day pupils, and others for boarders. It was a series of schools chosen arbitrarily by the writer with the purpose as given. It became more and more obvious, as the visits continued, that, without realizing it themselves, these seemingly different schools were in common agreement on a number of important matters; and not only so, but they were also in agreement with suggestions being put forth here and there by the colleges themselves.

The conclusion was obvious. It seemed only necessary to get these people together in order to achieve a common policy and agreement on this and other allied matters. In short, the psychological moment had arrived.

On behalf of the corporation already mentioned, representatives from these schools were invited to a conference, for which the Carnegie Foundation kindly offered facilities, and to this conference were invited also representatives from five major Eastern universities. It may be interesting to know who these people were.

PRIVATE ACADEMIES

N. H. Batchelder, Loomis Institute, Windsor, Conn.

Frank Hackett, Riverdale Country School, Riverdale, N. Y.

Dr. John Lester, Hill School, Pottstown, Pa.

Eugene R. Smith, Beaver Country Day School, Brookline, Mass.

H. W. Smith, Ethical Culture School, New York City.

Perry Smith, North Shore Country Day School, Winnetka, Ill.

Charles C. Tillinghast, Horace Mann School, New York City.

Newman D. Waffl, Carteret Academy, Orange, N. J.

Frank C. Wheeler, Choate School, Wallingford, Conn.

Stanley Yarnall, Friends School, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Charles C. Heyl, West Philadelphia High School, Philadelphia, Pa.

J. A. Stevenson, Boys' High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.

James Rule, Department of Secondary Education, State Department, Harrisburg, Pa.

THE UNIVERSITIES

Dr. Henry Pennypacker, Harvard.

Dr. Robert Corwin, Yale.

Dr. Adam Le Roy Jones, Columbia.

Dr. Carl C. Brigham, Princeton.

Dr. George W. McClelland, University of Pennsylvania.

Chairman: Dr. W. S. Learned, Carnegie Foundation.

Secretary: Charles K. Taylor, Carteret Academy, Orange, N. J.

Of the many agreements made by this conference we can take up but two.

First, as regards college entrance. It was agreed that, while the present entrance examinations have filled a very great need in the past, they need a development to meet present and future conditions. It was also agreed that examinations are valuable and necessary. It was also agreed, however, that the preliminary "College Entrance Board" examinations coming at the ends of the second and third high school years seriously interfered with the continuity of teaching and badly hampered the schools in their desire to develop individual character and capacity. It was further agreed that a pupil could be judged safely by the work of his last school year if to this were added a scholastic aptitude test, a complete school history, and an honest character study. These various agreements were then united in a single very important motion which recommended the following requirements:

1. A comprehensive examination in English.

2. Examinations in three other major subjects *studied in the last school year,* the examinations covering the work of this last year only.

It is obvious that if this plan is accepted by the colleges it will give the schools their rightly desired freedom and flexibility, and at the same time assure to the colleges the necessary machinery for careful selection. Furthermore, if the colleges will make their interpretations homogeneous the schools will no longer have to break up classes into small fractions in order to comply with the differing requirements of a dozen different colleges.

This conference made another unanimous recommendation which may mean much in the future. It was strongly recommended that steps be taken to get together the best possible prognostic tests, for use not later than the second high school year, by which both a school and the parents could recognize whether a pupil should or should not attempt to go into college, thus doing away with the great injustice at present done many thoroughly capable pupils who might very well make a great success along other lines, but who are obviously not of the more or less restricted type capable of managing a college curriculum.

In line with the above recommendations there has already been held a meeting of psychological experts who have suggested prognostic tests, and the development of a bureau for handling them is under way.

A limited number of the printed reports of this conference will on application be sent to heads of schools who will communicate with the secretary of the conference. For general interest, however, we will give herewith a summary of the motions passed unanimously at this interesting meeting:

The examinations shall consist of a comprehensive examination in English and three examinations in those parts or divisions of subjects which correspond most nearly to the regular work of the school's senior year, the only stipulation being that the boy in his senior year shall be pursuing a course leading to graduation in his school.

College authorities shall indicate in their catalogues the desirability that none but students of real intellectual interest and promise should apply for college admission, and, furthermore, we approve the working out of some plan whereby at about the age of sixteen there be a prognostic examination given that will test scholastic aptitude, so that the result can be submitted to school authorities and to parents to indicate the best plans for the candidate's future in the secondary schools.

We regard English as a basic study and recommend, except in rare cases, it be continued as a full major course throughout four years.

Resolved, That it be the sense of this meeting that the whole candidate be tested, and not just his academic accomplishment, as an essential part of determining his fitness to do college work.

Resolved, That it be the sense of this meeting that the school records submitted in support of an application for the new plan should pay special emphasis to the increase of power on the part of the candidate and not merely give a numerical statement of the work he has done in the year before the junior year in the high school course.

The requirements for college should demand that in each one of the four years for receiving entrance credits there should be given a minimum of four major subjects.

If high standards of college work are to be preserved, and the needs of students preparing for college are to be properly met, the work of the secondary school should consist for the most part of continuous and progressive courses in substantial subjects of study.

CHARLES K. TAYLOR.

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Springfield, Missouri

If Jack and Jill looked up the hill towards the Fairmont Hotel twenty-one years ago, this is the vista of San Francisco which would have greeted their eyes

The New San Francisco Comes of Age

By Hugh A. Studdert Kennedy

THE 18th of April marked for San Francisco the coming of age of the new city. For it was twenty-one years ago—to be precise, it was April 18, 1906, in the early hours of a gentle spring morning, with the dawn just creeping into the sky over the Berkeley Hills—that the blow fell, without warning; the earthquake first, and, after the earthquake, the fire, which was not stayed until almost the entire city had been laid in ruins.

New York was hurrying to business when the news was broadcast through specially early editions of the evening papers, carrying under flaring headlines a strange message which had come in over the Postal wires out of the West. Dated San Francisco, 5.30 A.M., it ran:

> An earthquake hit us at 5:15 o'clock this morning, wrecking several buildings, and wrecking our offices. They are carting dead from the fallen buildings. Fire all over town. There is no water, and we have lost our power. I am going to get out of the office, as we have had a little shake every few minutes, and it's me for the simple life.
>
> R., San Francisco, 5.30 A.M.

During the hours that followed, with no really reliable news available, the wildest rumors were afoot—that Los Angeles as well as San Francisco was in ruins, that the whole Pacific coast had sunk below sea-level, that the loss of life ran into hundreds of thousands and the loss of property into thousands of millions. The facts, however, as they became known were bad enough.

In the East there is an impression—I shared it for a long time myself—that when a San Franciscan speaks of "the fire" instead of "the earthquake" he does so for euphemistic purposes. No one who really understands what the fire did to San Francisco can make such a mistake. If the earthquake destroyed its thousands, the fire destroyed its tens of thousands. No fewer than fifty-two "original" fires were recorded on that fatal morning. Appalling as the situation seemed to be, however, no one doubted that the fire would be quickly checked. The Fire Department had always been more than equal to every emergency in the past, it would prove itself equal again. In spite of every anxiety, there was confidence until the terrible word began to be passed around that the water mains were broken and that the firemen downtown were standing helpless with the nozzles empty in their hands.

Then began one of the strangest struggles in history, comparable to nothing so much as the retreat of an army before a vastly superior force. Line after line was established, only to be abandoned. What seemed safe beyond peradventure in the morning was far back amid blackened, smoldering embers by midday, and at midnight was forgotten. Everybody rushed to fight the fire, with whatever means they could find; soldiers, firemen, volunteers by the hundreds and thousands, with blankets, with water pumped up desperately from the bay, with dynamite, and, in the end with field guns. By nightfall on the second day, with all the city south of Market Street a blackened, smoldering ruin, preparations were made for a last grand stand along the broad highway known as Van Ness Avenue, which runs north and south through the city.

The decision was taken to raze by dynamite or blow away with field guns the whole of the east side of this thoroughfare, and so form a great open swath through the city which, it was hoped, the fire could not cross. It was a desperate measure, but the only course that seemed to be open, and so, towards evening, guns were unlimbered, dynamite charges were set, and soldiers and

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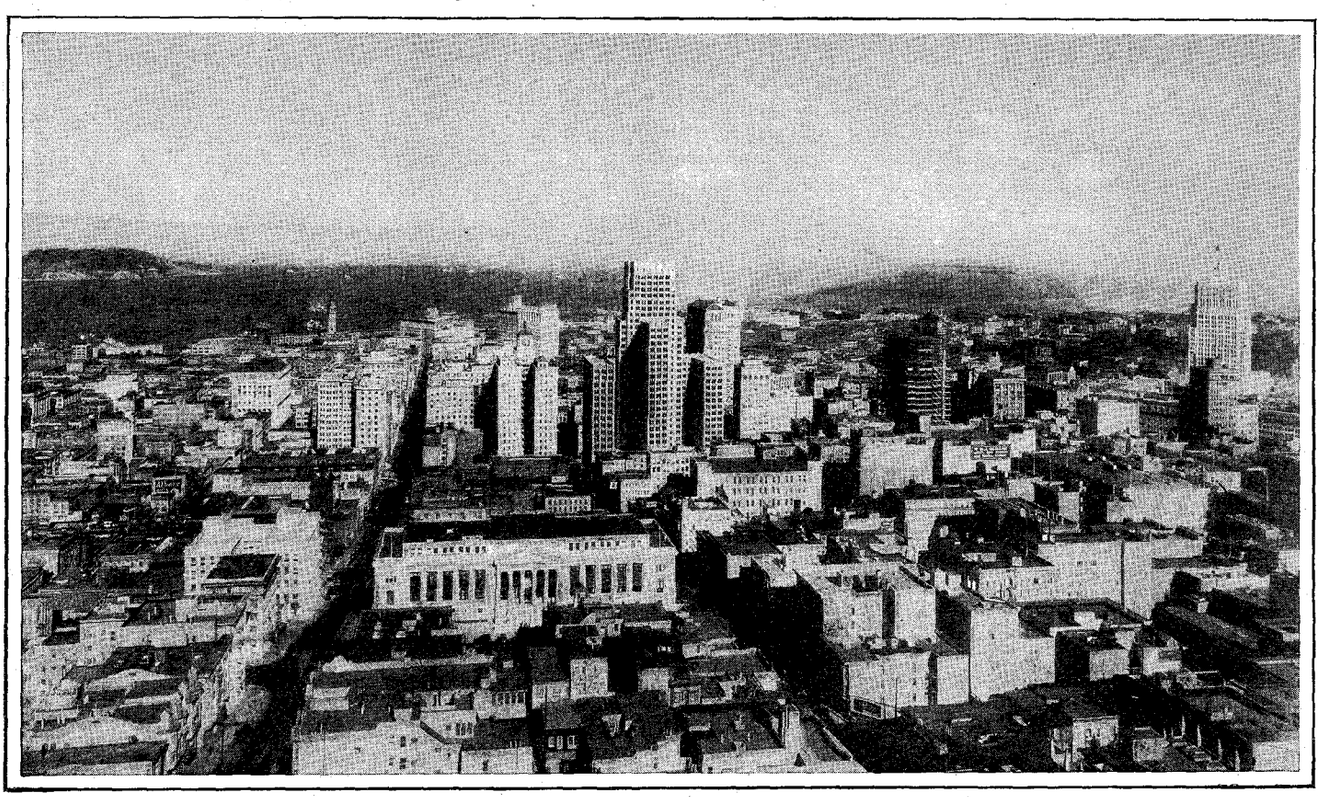
firemen and volunteers went to work. Mansions, churches, long lines of apartment-houses toppled over in a cloud of dust and wreckage. The roar was bewildering. Eastwards, only three blocks away was the fire, an unbroken advancing line, with a blackened city behind it. It was a terrible sacrifice, in any event, but it was rendered doubly bitter because it was in vain. The east side of Van Ness Avenue was demolished on Thursday evening; it was not until Saturday morning that the fire was finally stayed, burning itself out amid the scattered houses of North Beach. Twenty-five hundred acres of the city had been destroyed.

While this grim tragedy was being enacted in San Francisco all the world was rousing itself to help. The relief of San Francisco is one of the great epic events of the twentieth century. "Every city and town and hamlet in the land," as one contemporary account puts it, "gave unsparingly. As the destruction of San Francisco surpassed comparison, so the relief, springing spontaneously almost without appeal from every corner of the land, far exceeded everything of a similar sort in history. Out of the common round of affairs sprang a magnanimous sympathy that impelled action—quick, almost impulsive in its spontaneity. Before night Secretary Taft had started army tents and supplies on their way to San Francisco. Congress put aside its legislative work and hastened to make necessary appropriations. Before it stopped the expenditure of $2,500,000 had been authorized."

Meanwhile San Francisco's own efforts to help herself were beyond praise. The spirit of "Nineteen six" is still a beacon light for human achievement. Everywhere, every one who could do anything to help any one did it. Action was taken promptly; red tape was swept aside. General Funston's famous message to Washington, after he had put his troops in the field—"I shall expect to receive the necessary authority"—was typical. Long before relief began to come in from outside San Francisco was hard at work on its own problem. Relief stations were established, camps formed, food distributed; open-air kitchens sprang up in all directions, bureaus for the discovery of missing relatives were organized. The inventive genius of the people was quickly in evidence, and when the nightmare of the fire had passed irrepressible good humor and the often whimsical adaptation of means to ends were to be found on all hands. "Ring the bell for the Landlady," was a sign on a tent in one of the camps. "Elevator is not running," declared another. Still others announced that "Cars stop here." One little shack not much larger than a dog kennel displayed a sign which read: "Un-Fairmont Hotel. Open all night. Will exchange for country property." Yet another bore the motto, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for to-morrow we have to go to Oakland."

In an incredibly short space of time business began to revive. Stenographers discovered their employers. Offices were opened in tents; salvaged typewriters were set up on fruit-boxes, and business men began sending out letters to their "customers," assuring them that it would not be long before everything was running smoothly, and inviting them to send in their orders "right away." "Business as Usual," and as quickly as possible, was the cheerful determination of the day.

The rebuilding of San Francisco is still in progress. On the heights of Nob Hill, not far from where I am writing, are the blackened foundations of what, twenty years ago, was one of the city's great mansions. Ox-eyed daisies dance in the sunlight in and out of the ruins; eucalyptus trees sway in the breeze above them. But even this last grim evidence is rapidly disappearing. Only a few months ago there were two other such ruins close by me; to-day two giant apartment-houses are rapidly pushing their way up into the sky out of the ground which they cumbered. And so it is throughout the whole city. It has been rebuilded. As far as the eye can see from this vantage-point of mine is a veritable sea of structures. They climb up into the hills and run down into the valleys, shoot up suddenly into the sky, and spread themselves in giant blocks along the ground. Twenty-one years ago there was nothing here but black ruin.



If Jack and Jill looked down the hill twenty-one years after the great fire, this is what they would have seen from the roof of the Fairmont Hotel

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Shall America Intervene?

A Debate in Which Neither Side Knows What the Other Side Has Said

INTERVENE in China? Yes, says Mr. Nazaroff. No, says Mr. Koo.

Having been through one revolution in his native land, Russia, and having seen the ruin which it has wreaked upon the people, Mr. Nazaroff wants civilized nations to do for China, threatened, as he believes, with a similar revolution, what they feebly tried but failed to do in Russia. The point of view from which he writes is frankly not American, but European, and more particularly anti-Bolshevist Russian.

On the other hand, Mr. Koo, having had a hand in the awakening of China, wants the Powers who represent civilization to let China deal with the dangers of Bolshevism in her own way. The point of view from which he writes is frankly not American, but Chinese.

Readers of The Outlook who have noted what we have said about China need not be told that The Outlook regards any policy of American intervention in China (which, fortunately, this country has not yet adopted) as dangerous as well as futile. Protection? Yes. Intervention? No. Even if the Reds are fooling us, as the interventionists say, there is not the slightest ground for believing that intervention would prevent or even retard the so-called "world revolution." Intervention is a utopian dream, neither a true ideal nor a practical program. The only way to rout the Reds in China permanently is with a policy more friendly and more appealing to the people of China than that of the Russian Soviets.

With these few words from an American point of view, we introduce these spokesmen for a Russian and a Chinese point of view, respectively.

THE EDITORS.

I—Stop the World Revolution

By ALEXANDER I. NAZAROFF

I

UNTIL recently the public opinion of this country was watching the development of the Nationalist movement in China with a remarkable tranquillity, perhaps even with a sort of sympathy. "The Chinese want to become free; they are fighting to-day their War of Independence, just as we fought ours a hundred and fifty years ago." Such comment on Chinese affairs could be heard and read everywhere. To this was often added the feeling that if "those British imperialists" were ousted from China it would serve them right." The presumption seemed to be that this would only throw in relief America's noble philanthropic rôle, and that the Chinese, after having meted out a well-deserved punishment to the Britons, would turn with hopeful eyes to the Americans. All would end in the apotheosis of American missionaries and of the Y. M. C. A.

The "hopeful outlook" seems to have been shared by Washington too. In any case, Secretary Kellogg is said to have expressed astonishment when he learned that the citizens of the United States were abused, stoned, robbed, and ill treated at Nanking on an absolutely equal footing with other foreigners.

When I learned of these events, I expressed no astonishment at all. Just the contrary, I expected them, and I would be very much surprised if they did not occur. The only reason for this "prophetic" foresight of mine lies in the fact that I am an old reader of "Pravda," the official organ of the Russian Communists.

TWO years ago, when the first insignificant disorders ("student disorders") occurred in China, "Pravda" declared to its readers that this was the beginning of a momentous revolution, and that "a couple of years later the whole country would be ablaze." A year ago, while China was still controlled by powerful military lords and the now victorious Nationalist Government was confined to a negligible patch of territory around Canton, "Pravda" maintained that the hour of its triumph was approaching. It sounded then like sheer nonsense, but to-day it is an accomplished fact. Moreover, "Pravda" knew in advance by what weapon the Southerners would defeat their ten times stronger enemies; this weapon would be, it prophesied, "the propaganda and the uprisings in the rear of the Northern armies." Finally, "Pravda" derided long since the United States with their "open door" policy in China; it is gratifying, it declared, that by keeping aloof from other Powers the Americans weaken the "imperialistic front in China." "They hope to enter China through the open door, but it is exactly through it that they will be turned out of China." Such was its prediction.

WHO has hitherto had a clearer understanding of the Chinese situation, America or Soviet Russia? And who has been pursuing in China a more consistent policy, Washington or Moscow?

Speaking at a public meeting which was held in Moscow two months ago, Nicholas Bukharin, the new President of the Third International, said:

"The world revolution not only will come, but it has already come, it is a living fact. Is the Chinese revolution not a part of this enormous process? The world revolution will be ended when it triumphs in all countries. It is then that the circle will be completed. Meanwhile we are standing in the very center of the world's revolutionary events, and it is only fools, only blind idiots, who fail to realize it. The Chinese revolution is the depot of the world revolution; it is the rear force of the Union of the Socialist Soviet Republics."

Commenting on these words, "Pravda" adds that to-day it is China, to-morrow it will be French Indo-China, and the day after to-morrow—India.

II

IN 1917–19 I observed at an uncomfortably close range the Bolshevist revolution in Russia. I have a first-hand knowledge of the methods to which the Bolsheviks resorted in order to demoralize the Russian masses and in or-

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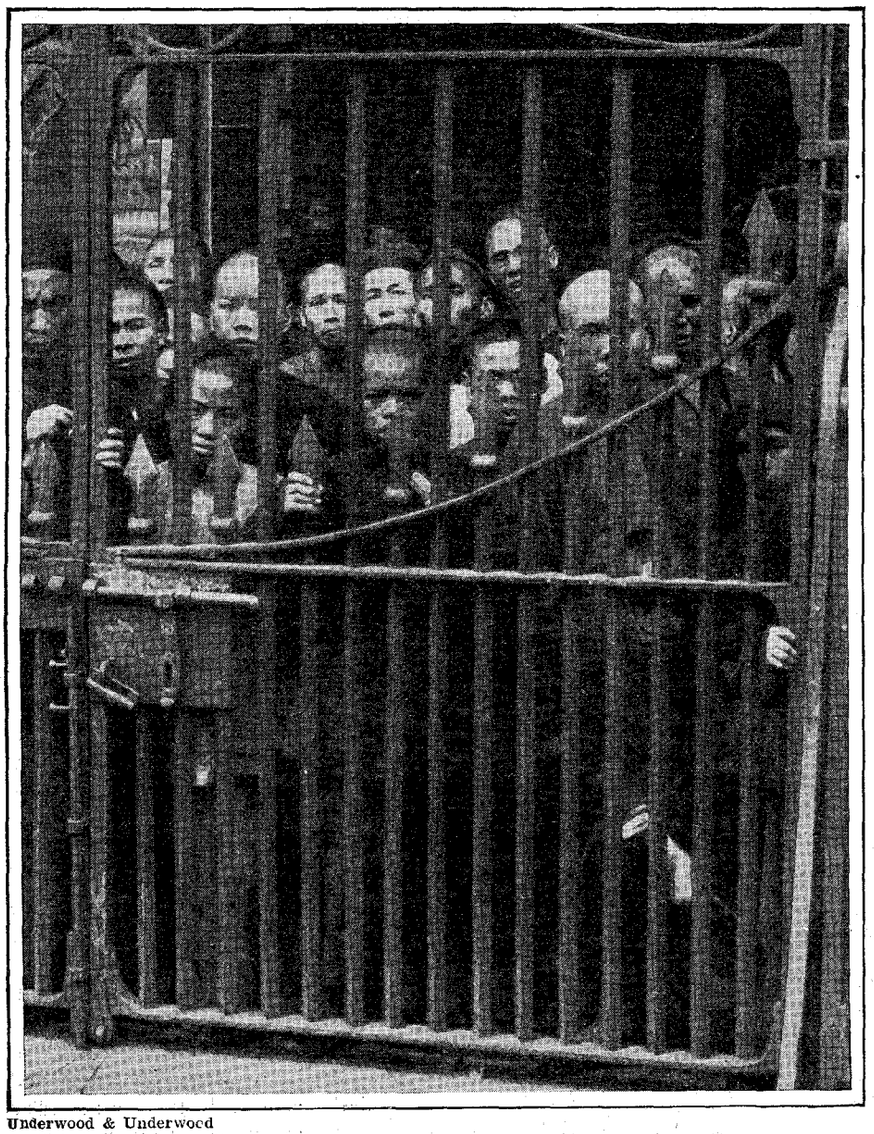

Underwood & Underwood

A group of Chinese watchers at the gate to the foreign quarter in Canton

der to subject them to their leadership. And now, reading the descriptions of events in Nanking and Shanghai, I am deeply impressed by the striking, the extraordinary resemblance of the two revolutions. The historical and ethnographical conditions are in China entirely different from what they were in Russia, no doubt. Yet this difference of scenery serves only to bring out the identical similarity of revolutionary psychologies in both countries.

It may be observed that an important distinction between the two revolutions lies in the fact that the Russian revolution was essentially economic and social, while the Chinese is nationalistic. "Give us land"—such was the outcry which shook the air from St. Petersburg to Odessa. The slogan which has united the yellow men from Mukden to Canton is, "Out with the foreigner."

This is, however, but a superficial distinction. The Chinese revolution is, just as was the Russian, the rising of the poor and ignorant against the rich. It is here that lies the very essence of both upheavals. What does it matter, after all, that in Russia the rich were nobles while in China they are foreigners?

In one case the leaders preached Socialism, in the other they preach nationalism; but, reaching the ears of the masses, these two different words transform themselves in both cases into the fascinating and irresistible word "Loot!" For looting is the *leitmotif* of both revolutions alike. When I read how, breaking into the homes of foreigners, the Cantonese mobs ransacked everything, from money to tablespoons and window-panes, how they stripped their victims of clothes, and how they shouted to their comrades who hesitated to follow their example, "You are bad revolutionists!" —I feel myself in the familiar surroundings of 1917. I observed all these scenes, from the first to the last word, when the Russian Ivans plundered the country estates in the provinces of Kiev or Kherson.

After having ransacked the foreigners, enraged Chinese mobs turn upon their own fellow-countrymen and begin to loot, kill, and rape those who stand an inch above the miserable average. Little traders and merchants, shopkeepers and clerks with their wives—all suffer alike. In this, too, the Russian history repeats itself. For in the eyes of the Russian crowds all those who wore a white collar and a necktie became "the enemies of the people."

It is interesting to note that the Chiang Kai-sheks and the Eugene Chens, the generals and Ministers of the "Red" Cantonese Government, are almost without exception graduates of European or American universities. There seems to exist a strange law of nature which may be formulated as follows: Western education is poison to Oriental brains. During my life in the Orient I have met numbers of exotic "intellectuals," and my impression is that most of them are "natural Bolsheviks." Of all the Western culture, they are usually capable of assimilating only the most radical revolutionary utopias (the reason, I believe, is simple: it is infinitely easier to learn of these utopias and then to consider one's self a cultured man than to assimilate the complicated Western culture in its entirety and actually to become a cultured man). As all converts, the Westernized Asiatics usually begin to hate their original culture, religion, and traditions, become a sort of foreigners in their own country, and burn with the barbaric desire to apply as quickly as possible the ten-cents-store revolutionary "truths" in their home towns.

Soviet Russia has been for nine years the only Power which knew what it was doing in China. While the rest of the world "kept smiling," the emissaries of Moscow were pumping with all their energy Bolshevist ideas into the weak, "naturally Bolshevist" Chinese minds and gold into the Chinese pockets. Hundreds of Chinese students received every year at the Russian expense "revolutionary education" in the Sverdlov University in Moscow, and thousands of Bolshevist agents were teaching, preaching, instructing, advising, corrupting, and demoralizing their followers in China, especially in Canton. What other Government has done anything of the kind? And who can wonder that the Cantonese rulers have finally submitted to the spiritual leadership of their Russian "saviors"?

The Cantonese Government had already introduced Bolshevist methods of administration four years ago, while it had under its control but a small patch of land. The private capital of Chinese

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traders was "nationalized." Enormous "revolutionary taxes" were levied on the "*bourgeois* element of the population" time and again. Churches—that is to say, pagodas—were closed, and objects of religious cult sold at public auction. The teaching of religion was replaced in schools by the teaching of Marxism and Lenineism. Russian "revolutionary holidays" were celebrated throughout the province, and portraits of Sun Yat-sen and Lenine hung side by side, with red flags around, in all official institutions.

III

THE policy which has been hitherto pursued by Washington in China is intended to help the Chinese people and to assist China in introducing democratic institutions. It is time to state clearly that this policy had considerably helped the Soviet Government instead. One of its purposes had been to weaken the position of Japan and of Great Britain in China. The recent events have proved that this was equivalent to the strengthening of the Moscow influence. The United States protected China zealously and energetically, with all the weight of its word, from all foreign intervention. At the Washington Conference of 1922 Secretary Hughes imposed upon the Powers the decision to preserve the *status quo* in the Pacific and to keep hands off China. And this decision has undoubtedly played an important rôle: it has firmly established throughout the world the non-interventionalist attitude with regard to China. To send troops to China would mean to court the disfavor of the United States. And who can afford to do it at the present time? Finally, it was thanks to the United States that England and Japan dropped in 1922 their Far Eastern Alliance, which was the only effective weapon that would keep China in submission.

All this was interpreted in China as the symptoms of weakness—both of the United States and of Japan with Great Britain. He who declares himself unwilling, or unable, to resort to the force of arms invariably loses his prestige with Orientals. And to lose prestige means in the Orient to lose everything. The Chinese began quickly to realize that the Bolshevist propagandists were right, and that something had changed in the world; one could now strike a British missionary or trader, and the sky wouldn't fall upon the earth. And as soon as this decision was reached all respect for the foreigners was lost and the prestige of Moscow rose to the stars.

At the present time only an energetic intervention of all Far Eastern Powers can put an end to the chaos in China. There is, however, hardly any hope of such intervention in sight. If all this were happening in the olden days, England would send a "punitive expedition" and the whole Chinese revolution would be liquidated in a month. But the England of to-day is not the England of twenty years ago. Now she has on her legs the paralyzing dead weight of the Labor Party. America? America could undoubtedly do everything; and her approval alone, not to speak of her participation, would make intervention possible. But Washington still seems to shrink in "democratic horror" from any such thing. Thus, besides England, which understands everything but cannot do a thing, and America, which can do everything but does not seem to understand a thing, there is but one country which both understands and acts. This country is Soviet Russia.

MEANWHILE the intervention (I mean an energetic intervention, and not the senseless sitting of 17,000 men in Shanghai) would render a great service, not only to the civilized world, but to the Chinese people as well. For what can be expected from the triumph of the Cantonese Government? Idiotic economic and political experiments which are responsible for the loss of millions of Russian lives and which will be responsible for the loss of millions of Chinese lives, numberless troubles in Asia ("to-day it is China, to-morrow it will be French Indo-China, and the day after to-morrow—India"), and very serious repercussions in the world commerce. The cost of all this in lives and in dollars may run up to a much higher figure than would the cost of the intervention, for war in China is a childish war and Chinese armies flee infinitely better than fight.

There are only two possible policies in China: One is to withdraw from it and to abandon it entirely to Moscow. The other is to take it away from Moscow.

II—Let China Seek Her Own Salvation

By T. Z. Koo

THE present Nationalist Movement in China is not a thing which has sprung up overnight. It has been brewing for more than three-quarters of a century. The first quivers of an awakening on the part of our people came when Western guns began to thunder at our gates and when our armies went down in defeat at the hands of Great Britain and we were forced to sign the humiliating Treaty of Nanking in 1842.

At first the awakening was limited to the educated classes. Among this group two divergent tendencies soon appeared. These tendencies were represented by two parties, a Reform Party and a Revolution Party. The objective of the two parties was the same—that is, to make China a great power in the family of nations. But in their methods they were quite different.

The Reform Party, led by Kang Yu-wei and Liang Chi-chao, advocated the principle of gradual change.

The Revolution Party, under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, then a young medical student in Hongkong, stood for the principle of radical change. He preached the overthrow of the Manchu dynasty and the establishment of democracy as the *sine qua non* of progress in China. Dr. Sun gathered round himself a group of young men and women, mostly students, and organized a secret society called the Tungmenhui to prosecute the Revolution. I can still remember, in my own student days, with what eagerness we read his secret revolutionary literature, and how our hearts thrilled at his call to rise and liberate the people from an effete monarchy.

Dr. Sun and his comrades started many unsuccessful rebellions against the Manchus between 1900 and 1910. Finally, in 1911, the great Revolution came and forced the Manchus to abdicate after a struggle of a few months. The Republic of China was proclaimed on December 31, 1911, amid great rejoicing all over the country. Dr. Sun was elected the first President of the Republic, and his secret society, the Tungmenhui, was reorganized and became the present Kuomintang, or the Nationalist Party.

The great Revolution of 1911, however, accomplished only a change in political labels. From a monarchy China became a Republic in name. The

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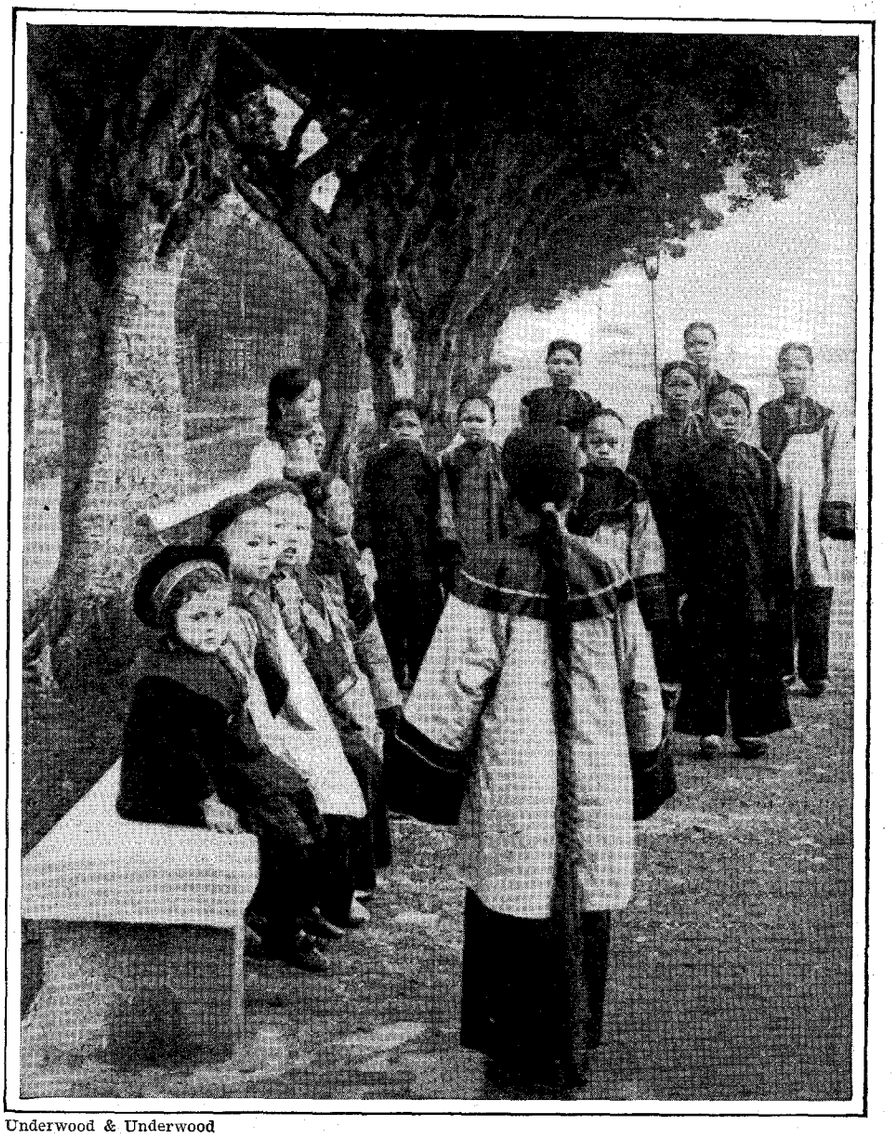
real government of China was still carried on largely by officials and with methods reminiscent of the former Manchu régime.

The leaders of the Revolution realized this weakness in their movement. They felt they must find some way to make their ideas and ideals intelligible, not only to the educated men of the country, but also to the masses. The main obstacle to this was the lack of a medium of expression which the common people could understand. Although there was only one language in China, yet the spoken or vernacular style of this language is quite different from its written or classic style. To the scholar the classic style is no mystery, but to the ordinary man it is as intelligible as Latin or Greek to the average European to-day.

To overcome this difficulty of a medium to the masses, Dr. Hu Shih, together with a group of intellectuals scattered all over the country, started the Literary Revolution in 1916. The purpose of this revolution was to discard the classic style of writing and to adopt the spoken or vernacular style as the written style also. By 1918 the Literary Revolution had swept the entire country. For the first time the man on the street can read the writings of the scholar, because they are now composed in the every-day style of his own spoken word.

This was a great achievement, for it furnished a vehicle to the leaders of the Revolution for the spread of their ideas and doctrines among the masses. It made possible the Mass Education Movement, which has been going on since 1920. This Mass Education Movement is conducted along two lines. In the first place, Mass Education schools are being established all over China to teach our adult illiterates to read and write in four months' time 1,000 characters scientifically selected from those in daily use by our people. Up to 1925 over 6,000,000 people are reported to have successfully completed this course. In the second place, the Mass Education Movement is promoting a nation-wide program of demonstrated lecture work designed to add to the knowledge of the common people in citizenship, hygiene, domestic politics, elementary science, international affairs, etc. This program reaches over 10,000,000 people yearly.

To-day we can truly say that the whole country, from the borders of Siberia to the Himalayas, and from the Pacific coast to the Tibetan passes, is conscious of a national urge towards self-determination and self-expression, untrammeled by the shackles which other



Underwood & Underwood

A group of Chinese girls in a foreign mission school. One American child is seated in the foreground

nations have fastened upon us in the past. This national urge towards self-determination and self-expression is struggling towards three objectives: First, it is struggling towards the political unification of China under the authority of a national Government based upon the will of the people; secondly, towards an economic life of the masses which shall be farther removed from the starvation point than it is now; and, lastly, towards the regaining of our status of equality in the family of nations.

Now, shall foreign nations intervene in such a situation in China, which is comparable to the emergence of modern Europe from the dark ages? If they intervene, what is likely to be the effect?

Before this question is answered, let us analyze briefly the psychology of the "interventionists." Some favor intervention because they frankly do not wish to see the special position of foreigners in China threatened. Others would like to intervene and crush the Nationalist Movement because they fear the success of the Movement in China will be a serious menace to the *status quo* in India, Indo-China, and other Asiatic states. Still others hope intervention will enable trade to continue without interruption, that thus their investments in China will be safeguarded. There are also many who have been led by the most subtle propaganda to believe that China is now a seething mass of Red influence from Russia and that intervention is the only way of saving the Chinese people from Communism and Bolshevism.

INTERVENTION is futile. The present Nationalist Movement in China has been gaining vitality and gathering momentum for almost three-quarters of a century. It has now reached the point when it is gripping the whole nation. A government which is unsupported by its people you can overawe and browbeat as Western nations have done in the past with the Manchu Court. But the aspirations of an awakened people numbering 400,000,000 can no more be crushed

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than you can affect the course of an iceberg by shaking your fists in its face.

If there is danger of China's becoming Communistic and Bolshevistic, foreign intervention will only hasten its coming. China, as every other country, has her Communists. The Nationalist Movement, however, is neither Red nor Communistic. The Chinese people, as a whole, detest radical theories of social and economic organization. Our problem is not the unequal distribution of wealth, but the lack of wealth. If China is in danger of becoming Communistic, the Chinese people alone can save her from that danger.

Intervention would force the moderate elements in China to join the radicals. In every great struggle there is a radical as well as a moderate element. The Nationalist Movement in China is no exception to the rule. It is also true that in times of upheaval the radicals are generally more in evidence than the moderates, although the latter far outnumber the former. Intervention would only enable the radicals to pose as saviors of the country

There is no such thing as friendly intervention. Some people speak of intervention as a friendly act to China. The manifesto of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai tries to make it appear that intervention by America with the other Powers will be beneficial to the Chinese people. The fallacy in this position lies in the fact that different countries entertain very different aims and objectives in their relationship to China. We have a Chinese proverb which aptly describes this situation: "People may be sleeping in the same bed, but they are all dreaming different dreams."

Intervention is morally wrong. China is not at war with Western nations. Our people are struggling only to set our own house in order. We regret the inconvenience and suffering undergone by some foreigners during these critical days. But the inconvenience and suffering to ourselves are infinitely more severe and on a much vaster scale than those of foreigners residing in our borders. Yet we face both cheerfully and willingly, for we realize our one hope out of our present chaos is this Nationalist Movement. We have a right to freedom and equality in our own country and we refuse any longer to be considered as a mere market for Western manufactures and investments. We have found our soul as a people. To attempt to cripple and crush the soul of a people by intervention is as immoral as for one man to kill another in cold blood.

The Only Cure for Auto Accidents

By WALTER P. CHRYSLER

President of the Chrysler Motor Car Company

THERE is nothing which distresses me more than to read in the newspapers about the death of a child in an automobile accident.

I am a manufacturer of automobiles, and I have every appreciation of the contribution that the motor car has made to the happiness of the people of America. But I also have an appreciation of the fact that some practical way must be found to check the increase in the number of deaths and injuries resulting from automobile accidents.

The more I study this whole problem, the more convinced I am that a major part of the problem is an educational one. That this is recognized is to be found in the fact that in many of our large cities police officers are going into the schools to give blackboard talks to children about crossing streets at crossings, the necessity for observing traffic lights, the dangers of playing in crowded streets, the folly of "hooking-on-behind" motor cars and trucks and busses and what not. Having police officers in uniform go into classrooms has its effect. In many cities officers are assigned to street corners to accompany children across streets, and the friendships which grow up between the youngsters and the policemen is enough to warm and gladden any one's heart. The children lose any fear they may have for the police officer. Instead, they learn to respect him and to be fond of him, and they are quick to heed his words of invariably sound advice.

This practice of having the police go into the schools should be encouraged. Many cities would do well to adopt the plan. But the work of the police must be supplemented by the instruction of the parents in the home. For example, I have known of a parent who gave instructions to her children "to keep near the house." "Keeping near the house" in that instance meant playing in the street in front of the home. What the parent should have done was to tell the children to go to the near-by school playground, where there was supervision of play and where there was no danger of rapidly moving automobiles and trucks.

In that instance the work of the police in the school was broken down. Instead, the parents should supplement the instruction received in the school. Children should, first of all, be taught to cross streets only at crossings and to wait for traffic signals. Secondly, they should be told to refrain from playing in the streets. Usually there is a playground near by or at least a vacant lot, which is preferable to the open street.

IT is also true that children must be taught to stop the practice of "hooking-on-behind" automobiles. This is a very common cause of accidents. Roller-skating is a healthful sport, but it can be made very dangerous where there isn't any place to skate except on crowded city streets.

Playing ball is great sport for the chil-

What Life Insurance Companies Know

A RECENT bulletin of the New York Life Insurance Company states that during 1926 accidents caused more deaths than tuberculosis, and that the automobile continued to figure at the top of accidental fatalities. In 1926 the New York Life paid 461 claims because of deaths occurring within three months after an accident. Over thirty per cent of these claims were caused by automobiles. Such figures as these lend even added weight to the statements presented in the accompanying article by Walter P. Chrysler, one of the foremost automobile manufacturers of the country.

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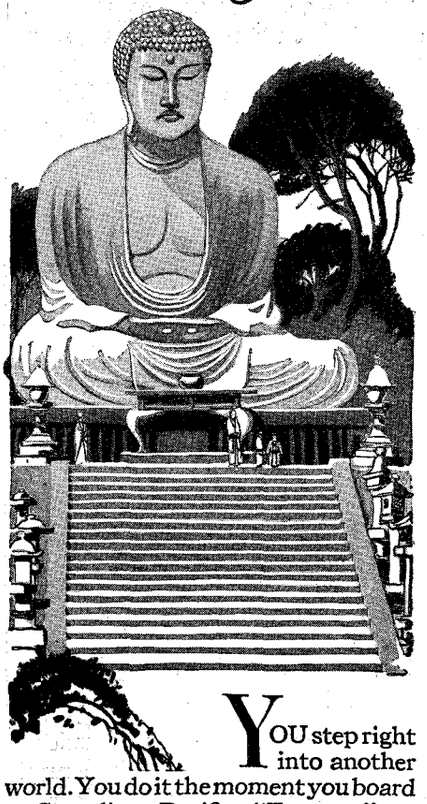
Step into MYSTIC JAPAN



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dren, but playing ball in the street is dangerous. Many accidents have been caused when children in their enthusiasm have chased after balls and have ignored approaching vehicles.

It is the inalienable right of a child to have a place to play. In several cities it has been found that school playgrounds were locked after school hours and that children were obliged to take to the streets. There is no excuse for that. School playgrounds should be kept open, and, whenever possible, play at such schools should be supervised.

If there are no playgrounds and no vacant lots, the least that can be done is to designate certain streets as play streets and to keep vehicles off those streets.

When father and mother go out for a walk with son or daughter or both, the parents should set a good example for the younger generation. They should not try to cross streets at places other than crossings unless they live in small communities and on streets where there is practically no traffic. If there are traffic lights, those signals should be observed. A real contribution can be made if we can raise in this country a generation of men and women with the understanding that traffic rules and regulations are just as much for the safety and convenience of the person who walks as they are for the motorist. With such an understanding will come better traffic conditions and fewer street accidents.

IN crossing streets where there are no signals the pedestrian should stop a moment at the curb before crossing. He should then look to the left to make sure no vehicles are approaching from that direction, and he should then look to the right to see what is coming from that direction. This may all sound very elemental, but a study of automobile accidents will convince any one that the failure to observe these simple precautions is what causes so many accidents. It is quite common, for example, for persons to cross streets while reading newspapers or books. It is not at all unusual to have persons during rain-storms cross streets with umbrellas obstructing their vision. Accidents result.

A car stops. A pedestrian alights. He turns to the right and proceeds to walk around the rear of the car. Now ordinary precaution should dictate to him that there may be a car approaching on the opposite track and there may be automobiles coming in the opposite direction. In a word, he must be alert and he must never take chances. But it is also true that when the motorist from the opposite direction approaches that car he must assume that some one may be coming from around the end of the car and he must have his car under complete control and capable of making a quick stop, if necessary.

When a motorist approaches a group of children at play on the curb, he should instinctively slow down, because of the simple fact that no one can hope to determine in advance what a child is going to do. A ball may roll into the street. The child gives no thought to approaching automobiles. He wants the ball, and he goes after it. The motorist can almost assume that some one child will dart out into the street from the group, and he must be prepared to make a quick stop.

Education of the child. Education of the motorist. Education of the pedestrian. These are the things which will make possible reductions in the number of street and highway accidents.

WHEN one visits some of our large cities, one is inclined to come to the conclusion that some children are more intelligent than adults in the manner in which they conduct themselves on city streets. Take a glance at Fifth Avenue and Forty-second Street, New York, one of the world's most famous corners and one of the busiest corners in the country. Fifth Avenue traffic is controlled by a system of synchronized electric signals. On the street there is a constant flow of traffic during all hours of the day. One automobile follows another. But, despite this steady stream of traffic, there are those who insist upon darting through traffic while signals are against them. It is a most dangerous practice, and the wonder is that so few are injured. Why do people take such chances? They gain possibly ten or fifteen seconds of time, and take the chance of losing their lives.

The use of synchronized electric signals is being adopted by more and more cities, and it is hoped that the extended use of the system will be accompanied by a more careful observance of them. It is the only safe course.

In New York an ordinance was passed recently which gives the pedestrian the right of way over automobiles at street intersections where there are no traffic lights and no police officers. One New York newspaper sent a reporter to several street corners to see whether it was possible for the pedestrian to get such right of way. Evidently, the motorists who were met hadn't heard of the new regulation, because several arrests were made.

The motorist loses nothing who gives to the pedestrian the right of way. It

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Springfield, Missouri

is the courteous thing to do. And then one should remember that a pedestrian cannot exchange bumps with a motor car.

I have no patience with the motorist who compels the pedestrian to run to escape injury. To be sure, there are all kinds of motorists, just as there are all kinds of pedestrians, but the decent thing to do is to permit the pedestrian to walk to the curb or across the street in safety and without hurry.

I have seen crowds of pedestrians stand on street corners waiting for the traffic lights to change. Just as these pedestrians were about to cross the streets a number of cars came around the corner and the line of march was cut off. To me this is all wrong. The pedestrian should be allowed to cross the street with traffic before vehicles are permitted to make the turn.

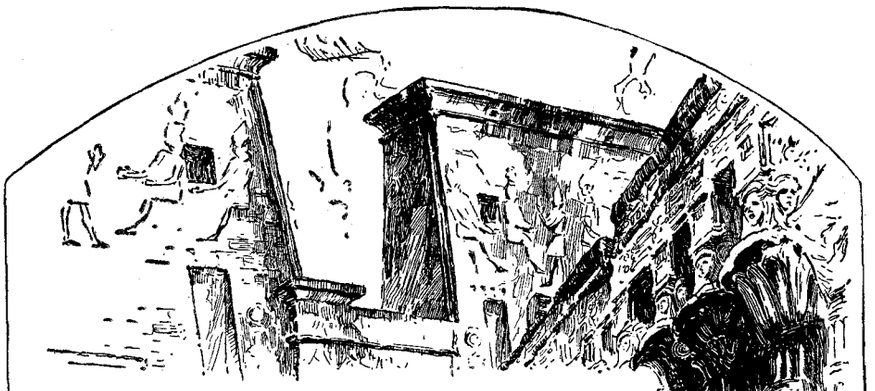
To-day there are more than 20,000,000 motor cars on the streets and highways of the country. It is natural that with this great use of motor vehicles there should arise many problems. But I, for one, can't think of them as insurmountable. I believe American engineering genius and enterprise equal to them. This age, which is willing to try to send motion pictures through the air, won't stop at any simple traffic problem.

AFTER years of study of traffic problems, especially the causes of accidents, I am convinced that education can do a major job in reducing the number of accidents. The work must start in the school. It must be continued in the homes. It must be agitated constantly in the newspapers and in the magazines. Various organizations engaged in safety work must be adequately financed to continue their work aggressively.

But while this work goes on let the accounting of automobile accidents be fair to the automotive industry. When a train collides with an automobile, is it fair to describe every such accident as an automobile accident? It may be a railroad accident. When a wagon runs into a motor car, the chances are that the accident will be described as an automobile accident. The responsibility for the accident should rest upon the offending vehicle.

Automobile manufacturers are fully aware of their responsibilities. Through their National Automobile Chamber of Commerce and with the co-operation of most of the representative newspapers of the country a commendable work is being done to reduce the number of vehicular accidents.

But education can do more than any other one thing.



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The Book Table

Edited by EDMUND PEARSON

The Sixth Commandment

THE most widely used of all the public libraries announced last week some of the interests of its readers. In the newspaper room, said the librarian in charge, there was one conspicuous subject, which attracted those who came to consult the bound volumes of newspapers. This was murder.

He explained that Mr. Dreiser's "American Tragedy," founded on an extraordinary murder, had caused many persons to wish to read reports of the actual crime. In addition, playwrights and novelists were looking for plots, while "certain sociological investigators" were hunting for data. Here, perhaps, is one answer to the endless and foolish question: Why do people desire to read about crime, and especially about homicide?

I say that this question is foolish because it is asked by persons who, with a little thought, could answer it themselves. The misdeeds of men have always been interesting; it is only a small proportion of readers who pretend that the sole subject of literature should be sunshine, sweetness, and good conduct. Not until Pollyanna has displaced the great characters in Greek tragedy as the most important figure in literature, and not until actresses prefer to present her rather than Lady Macbeth, need any one ask why there is a perpetual interest in crime. There are two companion volumes, sometimes found in bookshops and libraries—one is called "The Lives of Twelve Good Men" and the other "The Lives of Twelve Bad Men." Or, rather, it is the first of these which can be found, and it is usually dust-covered and neglected. The lives of the twelve rascals is in much greater request, and is hard to obtain.

This is not to say that biographies of virtuous people are uninteresting, nor that chronicles of crime may not be stupid or even vicious. Literature is a means of escape from humdrum life. Given some literary skill in the telling, it is probable that the popularity of books about malefactors indicates not a low, but a fairly high standard of conduct in the society which enjoys them. Contrary to vulgar belief, criminals do not ordinarily spend their time reading books about crime, nor get their motives from such books. It is, of course, a favorite device of the wrong-doer to lay the blame for his wickedness upon a book, or other external influence, and this excuse is often accepted by the credulous. When Mr. Roosevelt was a deputy sheriff in the West, he noted with interest the books which were being read by some horse thieves he had caught. These men were not amusing themselves with "dime novels" or with tales of other outlaws, but were reading sentimental, wishy-washy, but impeccably "moral" novels by lady novelists.

In a rather long correspondence which I have had on the subject of books about murder, I have received only one letter from a murderer—or rather, from a man who had been convicted of murder. More than from any other class of men the letters come from clergymen, who have a lively interest in the subject, and are often eager readers of books on this subject.

There are three or four methods of writing about murder when the subject is considered as history. One of the oldest of them is the didactic and horrified manner of the "Newgate Calendar," in which the narrator seems to say:

"You must remember, little folks, that the unlawful killing of human beings is a very nasty and grievous crime. Never forget that! In relating the adventures of the blood-stained ruffian whose abandoned career forms the subject of this chapter, I must warn you not to imitate his impious conduct. Do not think that I am suggesting that you should slay your great-aunt with a pair of scissors. On the contrary, I urge you most strongly to abstain from any such action. To prove to you its folly and wickedness, I will relate what kind of fate falls to the lot of those who neglect this good advice."

Another and more recent method is the brisk and careless one of the American or the English journalist when he explores old crimes. The former still believes, with the authors of the "Newgate Calendar," that the subject needs an apology, but, while the strongly ethical tone is generally absent from his works, he makes up by haste and inaccuracy. He either talks with some old reporter or policeman whose memory is very hazy, or else he consults a hopelessly incorrect report in a yellow journal

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of thirty years ago. From these sources he concocts an article which is from forty to seventy per cent incorrect, and is only clear on the main fact that "a feller got bumped off."

His British brother adopts a manner at once chatty and reverential. He is fond of alliterative titles like "Crippen's Criminous Career" or "Palmer's Pestiferous Poisonings." Frequently the English writer prefers to let his story center upon some eminent legal person—a great judge or barrister. To him the criminal existed solely for the purpose of reflecting a more splendid light upon the character of Lord Justice Bigwig. He proceeds in some such manner as this:

"Among the most sinister murderers who flourished during the period when Lord Bigwig graced Her Majesty's Courts was Hicks, the Houndsditch Assassin. It is true that Hicks rose to infamy, went upon his trial, and expiated his crimes while Lord Bigwig was all the time absent in Ceylon; but one can easily imagine how that distinguished jurist would have disposed of the case had he been sitting at the Old Bailey. One recalls that august presence; that dry humor," etc.

Remarkable for his avoidance of all these methods, and more remarkable still for the positive merits of the workmanship, is Mr. William Roughead's "The Rebel Earl and Other Studies."[1] The Rebel Earl himself was Bothwell, nephew of the more famous Bothwell, Queen Mary's fate and misfortune. This is a historical essay "for readers of the graver sort." The book contains one or two other historical papers, and one or two literary essays and fancies. As we are considering, however, the subject of murder, I can speak now only of those which deal with that topic. These are, principally, "Constance Kent's Conscience: A Mid-Victorian Mystery," "A Case for De Quincey: A Footnote to the Famous Essay," and "The Luck of Adelaide Bartlett: A Fireside Tale." Of these I would choose the article on Constance Kent as one of the best works of the acknowledged master of this kind of writing. Numerous writers have had their try at the story of this strange, sullen little girl of the 1860's and her midnight crime. To my mind, Mr. Roughead has said the last word on the subject, and by his thoroughness, combined with a delightful style, has written an essay to be the despair of all his colleagues and imitators. I quote its opening paragraph:

In the palmy days of the Sixties, the memory of which is preserved for us in the evergreen pages of "Punch;" when skirts were wide, minds were narrow, and whiskers did prodigiously abound; when ladies veiled their graces in chignons and crinolines, and gentlemen, inexpressibly pegtopped, fortified their manly bosoms with barricades of beard; when the cultured delighted in wooden woodcuts of gilt-edged table books, and the vulgar worshiped albums of painfully realistic family photographs; when the outside of cup and platter received much attention, and due regard was had to the whitening of sepulchers, and whatever was "respectable" was right; *enfin*, about that sincere and engaging period, there resided—to employ the appropriate contemporary term—at Road Hill House, near Trowbridge, in Wiltshire, one Mr. Samuel Saville Kent, gentleman.

"A Case for De Quincey" is rightly named. It describes a savage crime, which should have attracted the interest of the great stylist who described the gloomy crimes of Williams in London. A friend of mine, well read in this branch of literature, chooses from this volume the story of the trial of Adelaide Bartlett as the gem in the collection. While I cannot agree with him—since a murder by poison, in a bedroom, seems to me an unpleasantly stuffy crime—I mention his opinion in order not to be too arbitrary and dogmatic.

The Earl of Birkenhead—a highly delightful Chancellor—has compiled a volume of "Famous Trials"[2] from English history. It includes the trials of Mary Queen of Scots, of Colonel Blood, who tried to steal the Crown, of Captain Kidd, of Warren Hastings, and others. The later chapters describe a number in which the author, then known as Sir Frederick E. Smith, represented the Government. There are the prosecution of Sir Roger Casement, and the acquittal of Dr. Crippen's mistress, Ethel Le Neve. In the latter Sir Frederick defended the prisoner. Perhaps the most curious of the later chapters is the one about the plot to murder Mr. Lloyd George. The reader will wish that the Earl of Birkenhead had written these chapters at greater length and in more detail.

"Famous Criminals and Their Trials"[3] seems to be an American version of a book published in England as the mem-

[1] The Rebel Earl, and Other Studies. By William Roughead. W. Green & Sons, Edinburgh. 10s. 6d.

[2] Famous Trials of History. By the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Birkenhead. The George H. Doran Company, New York. $4.

[3] Famous Criminals and Their Trials. Compiled from the papers of Sir Richard Muir. By Sidney Theodore Felstead. Edited by Lady Muir. The George H. Doran Company, New York.

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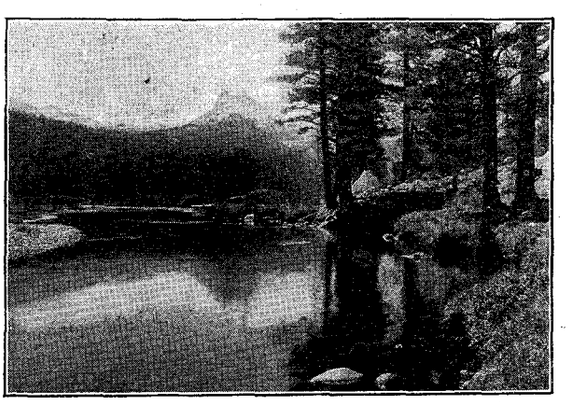

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oirs of the famous crown prosecutor, the late Sir Richard Muir. I wish that the publishers could have had more faith in the intelligence of American readers, and left it in its original form. As it stands, it is a confusing and unsatisfactory book, either rewritten or somehow scrambled.

Many disappointments have made me cynical about current novels which begin with a mysterious murder. It is therefore a pleasure to run across two readable stories of this kind. "The Crime at Diana's Pool"[4] seems to me entertaining, and "The Verdict of You All"[5] strikes me as very good indeed.

E. P.

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[4] The Crime at Diana's Pool. By Victor L. Whitechurch. Duffield & Co., New York. $2.

[5] The Verdict of You All. By Henry Wade. Payson & Clarke, New York. $2.

Fiction

"THE OLD COUNTESS." By Anne Douglas Sedgwick. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. $2.

Richard Graham married Jill because he liked her looks, and Jill married Graham because she liked his looks. Luckily, they were good comrades as well, so easily companionable that it was of small moment that Jill did not share her husband's interest in his painting and was even repelled by some of his somber, often ugly canvases. So they were mutually content that he should spend days painting out under the "menacing French sky," while she excursioned about the country in their little open car. Such a harmonious union offered sure elements of happiness; yet, as neither had been profoundly moved emotionally by the other, there was danger ahead if a *grande passion* appeared. Marthe Ludérac, the French girl, was content enough in her lonely life, and her roots were deep down in her native soil. But both Dick and Jill "pursued" her—he ignobly, she in her infatuation for an unusual, beautiful, and compelling character. Marthe is, without doubt, the strong, splendid person in the book—a very rock of loyalty and honor. It is the Marthes who are able to control fate. And it was Marthe, in this instance, who, despite Jill's maneuvering, mastered the situation—in her own tragic way.

So graphically, understandingly Anne Douglas Sedgwick's characters are portrayed that they are real people. One may read a story in a passing face; and a memory sketch in the hands of an artist can become a masterpiece. It is in the telling —forceful, dramatic, discerning—that this story is made the haunting, intensely agitating tale it is.

FALLING SEEDS. By Elizabeth Cobb Chapman. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. $2.50.

"On the Stupidity of Clever Heroines" is the title of a very interesting essay which we have not yet had time to write, but would like to. Here in "Falling Seeds," by Mrs. Chapman, is another of them: standard type, latest model, married to a man whom an ordinary plain woman would classify at once as "a dear and *so* reliable," and in whom one of higher perceptiveness would recognize, tenderly and humorously, the fineness and feeling behind an inarticulate shyness. His stupid Sara, bored with him and his rather trying family, does comprehend that he is good—discredited

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but still useful word—but she yearns to do interior decorating or something, and must take her fling with the worthless lover, who was her first love, before she acquires sufficient elementary common sense to recognize happiness when it lies close at hand. One's impatience with her is a compliment to the verity and vividness with which she is portrayed in this ably written first novel by the daughter of Irvin S. Cobb.

THE SMUGGLERS' CAVE. By George A. Birmingham. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. $2.

The Hailey Compton Village Pageant, organized by the redoubtable Mrs. Eames, wife of Hailey Compton's vicar, was, we are assured, one of the most celebrated in a not remote period when pageants were the order of the day. They were in most cases rather deadly, but this one, because of a number of peculiar circumstances, "excited England from end to end, set every club in London gossiping, inspired a spate of articles in the daily papers, smirched the reputation of an earl, and went near wrecking, at the next General Election, the prospects of a prominent statesman."

The humor of the novel is typically English, inducing no side-splitting guffaws, but many an appreciative chuckle over the foibles of its characters. By far the best drawn is Mrs. Eames, the antithesis of fiction clergymen's wives. Her niece, Beth Appleby, a busy young person who writes a weekly syndicated column of society gossip for provincial papers entitled "Lilith lisps," must be blamed for Lord Colavon's embarking on a smuggling expedition to prove his mettle. Beth doesn't think a kind heart and a coronet, to say nothing of youth, good looks, and a fortune, sufficient attractions. Jimmy must prove himself a man. He does. After reading the first chapter one does not willingly put the book aside; a second capsule, and the reader is completely at Mr. Birmingham's mercy.

RHAPSODY: A DREAM NOVEL. By Arthur Schnitzler. Translated by Otto P. Schinnerer. Simon & Schuster, New York. $1.50.

In this novelette Schnitzler's theme is the jealous interlude in a happy marriage. Fridolin, a successful young Viennese doctor, adores his wife, Albertina. Their life has been a nine-year dream of happiness. Then one day mutual admissions of prenuptial longings for very real might-have-beens sets the ball rolling. During their engagement while Albertina was summering at a Danish watering-place with her family and Fridolin courted her she saw a young man the very sight of whom so profoundly stirred her emotions she knew that if he spoke—but he never did speak, fortunately. This fugitive passion is matched by Fridolin's account of the girl he saw early one morning of that same summer, a modern Eve, about to enter the waves. They stood staring at each other enthralled. Then she waved him away—and he never saw her again.

Nebulous episodes, to be sure, but Schnitzler's forte is style, not substance, and it would be indicative of a shocking lack of delicacy of feeling for any one to suggest that they were weak motives to influence the action of his characters. A prey to jealousy, Fridolin determines to be untrue to his wife that he may have a secret advantage over her. The prospect of his duplicity delights him. It will be his revenge for Albertina's disloyal thought of nine years ago. This may seem a trifle far-fetched to the American reader, but is sound logic in Vienna. Fridolin proceeds to have adventures, sentimental of course, and at the same time bizarre, if not incredible. But try as he will his revenge eludes him.

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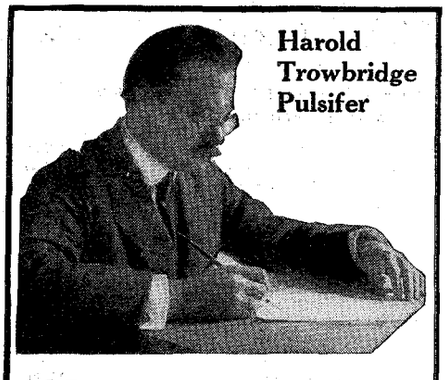

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reader. One suspects the author owes a debt to Freudian researches.

Biography

EARLY LIFE AND LETTERS OF JOHN MORLEY. By F. W. Hirst. 2 vols. Illustrated. The Macmillan Company, New York. $10.50.

Two years ago we had General John H. Morgan's "John, Viscount Morley: An Appreciation and Some Reminiscences," and now we have Mr. Hirst's two volumes, with an implied promise of more—all of this in celebration of a man who is supposed to have asked that no biography of him should ever be written. Mr. Hirst, however, believes that Morley knew of his intention to write a biography, and he backs his belief with the testimony of Mr. Guy Morley, the statesman's nephew and executor. Morley had, it is true, enjoined his nephew against the use of his papers for a "superfluous memoir." But Mr. Hirst detects a slight flavor of irony in the use of the word "superfluous." Morley, he writes, must have known that the public would in time demand a memoir, and how could a man of such rank who had submitted so many others to such an ordeal hope to escape it for himself?

At any rate, here is the biography, carried to the year 1885. No one better fitted for the task could be named. Mr. Hirst, whose standing as a writer on politics and economics is well known in America, was not only a disciple of Morley's, but also an intimate friend. He has had access to every important source of information regarding his subject and the generous assistance of friends. The result is a work important in substance and engaging in treatment. It is the less-known Morley who is here depicted—Morley the boy, the Oxford student, the hack writer on the London press, the Morley who was gradually finding his way and preparing for a great career. It is a work in all respects admirable, and only the ultra-captious will find in it anything for serious criticism.

Sociology

MODERN INDUSTRIAL CONSOLIDATION. By J. George Frederick. Frank-Maurice, Inc., New York. $7.50.

Mr. Frederick justifies the era of consolidation by a bewildering array of figures and arguments. His work is frankly an advocacy of large-scale business, and it is no part of his task to give the other side. Consolidation is justified of its fruits. It makes for high wages, mass production, low prices, and the diffusion of purchasing power. Its career, moreover, is but at the initial stage; it ought to, and will, go on to further triumphs. The era of mechanical invention, he finds good reason to believe, probably reached its peak a decade or so ago. The industrial wonders of to-day are not those of invention, but of large-scale business method, policy, and plan and the resulting enrichment of the average man. There are, he concedes, certain limitations to the increase of size in particular enterprises, but these are technical and do not affect the general principle. Big business is the measure of man's organizing and executive capacity.

"A business book which should be in every good business library," reads the jacket blurb, and with the qualification that it is a thoroughly one-sided book the claim can readily enough be confirmed. Though partisan, it is honest. It reveals, moreover, a close study of a vast mass of data. One who wants the case for extreme consolidation fully stated, without misgivings of any sort, will find it in this book.

THE DYING PEASANT AND THE FUTURE OF HIS SONS. By J. W. Robertson-Scott. Williams & Northgate, London. $2.52 (10s. 6d.).

This is a treatment of the farm worker of England and of the transformation from his status in the days of the sixties to his present status, when he is undistinguishable from the town worker, "either by his clothes or his mind." This transformation, however, has not been accompanied by a betterment of his living conditions; he is still miserably underpaid. English agriculture, the author maintains, is not dying, for there are more farmers in England to-day than there were in 1871. If it is to continue, however, the farm worker must be assured a living wage. The book is a thorough discussion of the factors of the problem and presents a great mass of data on agricultural conditions in England.

Politics and Government

DIPLOMATIC EPISODES IN MEXICO, BELGIUM AND CHILI. By Henry Lane Wilson, Formerly U. S. Ambassador to Mexico. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. $4.

In his foreword Mr. Wilson explains that he "aims to delineate in their true colors the characters of some eminent men" and to "correct misleading accounts of important events." He had to deal with four Presidents—McKinley (who gave him his first mission, that to Chili, after promising him Japan, which, it appears, Mark Hanna had already given away), Roosevelt, Taft, and Woodrow Wilson. McKinley was charming and gracious. Roosevelt was "an unleashed Berserker when pursuing a great object under difficult circumstances; his mental reservoirs were deep, rich, and varied, and he drew upon them with unceasing energy. . . . An aristocrat at heart, nourished in the lap of luxury, highly educated and highly endowed, he yet became the prophet of democracy and sounded the depths of public insight and with a readier response to signals than perhaps any other President. . . . He was not, however, overly nice in the selection of the instruments through which he accomplished his ends, nor was he, when he believed a public interest could be served, or injury to a public interest prevented, a stickler for the niceties of veracity. He once said to me he regarded the Presidency as 'a great pulpit from which a man of courage and ability could influence and move the fortunes of the world; that is why I like the job.'"

Mr. Wilson liked Mr. Taft and found himself in great accord with him. He regards Mr. Roosevelt's quarrel with his former intimate as a "sad mistake," observing further: "Taft adored Roosevelt and would have sacrificed anything save the dignity and independence of the Presidential office to preserve his affection." Roosevelt, Mr. Wilson avers, "had a profound contempt for Woodrow Wilson, whom he described as a person wholly unequal to the demands of critical emergencies, with 'a vision like a person looking through wire netting at a far distant landscape.'" The author believes that had Roosevelt lived he would have been nominated and elected President in 1920, when he would have been "an enormous aid in the solution of the great problems left by the war, and to regain many of the things lost by the narrowness and prejudice of the Wilson administration."

It will be perceived that Henry Lane Wilson did not care for Woodrow Wilson. The recital of chief interest in his book is the story of the revolt against Porfirio Diaz, the seizure of the Mexican Government by Madero and the death of the latter. For this last tragedy Ambassador Wilson was given some credit himself, and he repels the charge with ample evidence that he was guilty of nothing worse than helplessness in a hopeless situation.

He held over into the Wilson Administration, with Huerta at the helm in Mexico, and found himself in no sort of accord with the President, whose Mexican policy has never been clear to any one, involving as it did the bombarding of Vera Cruz, the futile invasion of the country, and the

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mysterious missions of William Bayard Hale and John Lind. Ambassador Wilson is very outspoken on the latter. He concludes his volume with this observation: "Nor did the results of this disastrous and amateurish policy—a policy not initiated in response to any pressure of American public opinion—extend solely to Mexico and our abandoned methods there. The story crossed the sea and became a factor in the decision of Germany to precipitate a European war," Germany counting "upon a wavering, vacillating, and retreating policy on the part of the Government of the United States." Indeed, he winds up: "The American public did not follow President Wilson into the World War—he reluctantly followed them."

About this there will always be two opinions, neither wholly correct. The book reveals that von Hintze, the German Ambassador to Mexico, had strong influence with Ambassador Wilson.

Incidentally, the volume abounds in pleasant—and unpleasant—tales of diplomatic life which create an impression that it contains a good deal of *ennui* and scandal, without performing any service that could not better be done over the telephone or by radiogram.

Art

A SHORT HISTORY OF ART. By André Blum and R. R. Tatlock. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $7.

It seems that not every one is writing movie scenarios or great American novels; a good many are writing Outlines of Art, and publishing them. This one, the fourth—or is it the sixth?—to elevate the brow and improve the mind of this department in the current fiscal year may be distinguished as the work of André S. Blum, Docteur-es-Lettres de l'Université de Paris, reillustrated and reduced into English by R. R. Tatlock, the editor of the "Burlington Magazine." The publishers tell us that Dr. Blum has created considerable excitement with the book on the Continent, and that is understandable. Education by synopses is comparatively new in Paris, but theories about art are not. The bookstalls in the neighborhood of the Sorbonne contain not only a quantity of fiction that is—shall we say?—ephemeral, but also innumerable pamphlets called "L'Art: Qu'est que c'est que l'Art?" or by similar titles. It is a relief to turn from this thing to a book that has no pet theories whatever, and merely gives in a clear and concise way what the title leads you to expect—a short history of art. After all, Dr. Blum is hardly to blame if other people have had the same ideas. He and Mr. Tatlock have at least seen to it that their book is a handsome one.

War Books

THE POILUS. By Joseph Delteil. Translated from the French by Jacques Le Clerq. Minton, Balch & Co., New York. $2.50.

The author of "Joan of Arc" evolves an epic of the *poilu*, that red-blooded he-man with hair on his chest, the French doughboy, who to the virile attributes of his American prototype in Western fiction adds a dash of sex, a liberal pinch of Gallic gayety and temperament. As a portrait of the common man emerging from field, factory, and office to fight for *la Patrie*, it is refreshingly unidealized. But technical skill and an incisive staccato style supply all that is necessary to achieve an apotheosis.

You see the *poilu* in the hell of Verdun, and in the heaven of his *marraine's* dainty apartment *en perm* in Paris. You see a French artilleryman in November, 1918, watering his horses in the Rhine. Occasionally one loses sight of this heroic Rodinesque figure. In the chapter on Wilson, for instance, and the one that celebrates Clemenceau, which opens with a brilliant word picture:

"The jungle of Asia swarms with ants and goslings. Under the giant eucalyptus trees hang creepers, drunk with monkeys and grapes of parrots. . . . Yonder a great feline advances, with quadrangular jaw, with great mustaches issuing from his nose. He is old, calm, and direct. His tail beats in cadence against his straight flanks. The Tiger!"

The reader may object that eucalyptus trees are never found in jungles of Asia; only in Australia. This is being carpingly critical, and not to see the forest for the trees. If no one thought it worth while to charge Chateaubriand with nature-faking when he described the Mississippi Valley in terms of the sub-tropics, why pick on M. Delteil?

Our war President is described with reverent imagery: "Wilson is a gentle, sad Quaker, with glasses and a grimace. He is tall, with the shoulders of a hare, with a profile like Niagara Falls. Pale enigmas prowl over his face. Noble of race, there is something ethereal and astral in him which makes of him a reflection of the firmament."

One is tempted to quote whole chapters, but space permits of only one, the last, entitled "Peace." The chapter contains a single word—"Alas!"

Books Received

A MANUAL OF SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH PROCEDURE. Compiled and Edited by William Lewis Burdick and Corliss Fitz Randolph. The American Sabbath Tract Society, Plainfield, N. J.

THE CLASS WAR IN HEAVEN. By Luke. Richard G. Badger, Boston.

OUR ENVIRONMENT: HOW WE USE AND CONTROL IT. By George C. Wood and Harry A. Carpenter. Allyn & Bacon, New York. $1.80.

THE IDEALS AND FOLLIES OF BUSINESS. By William Feather. The William Feather Company, Cleveland.

GRAMMAR AT WORK. By Jessie L. Wheeler. Allyn & Bacon, New York. $1.

FEDERAL AND STATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION. By William A. Cook. The Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. $2.75.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION IN THEORY AND PRACTICE. By Ellsworth Collings. The Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. $2.75.

MARTIN'S ADVENTURE. By Cynthia Asquith. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.75.

THE MERRY MERRY CUCKOO. By Jeannette Marks. D. Appleton & Co., New York. $2.

THE UNDEFEATED. By Gerald W. Johnson. Minton, Balch & Co., New York. $1.50.

THE MYTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL. By Charles W. Wood. The John Day Company, New York. $2.50.

PRINCIPLES OF LABOR LEGISLATION. By John R. Commons and John B. Andrews. Harper & Brothers, New York. $3.

PLANNING YOUR PARTY. By Emily Rose Burt. Harper & Brothers, New York. $2.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES. Edited by Ralph G. Hurlin and William A. Berridge. The Russell Sage Foundation, New York. $2.50.

THE IDEA OF SOCIAL JUSTICE. By Charles W. Pipkin. The Macmillan Company, New York. $3.50.

FARMERS OF FORTY CENTURIES. By F. H. King. Harcourt, Brace & Co., New York. $3.50.

BAHA'I YEAR BOOK, 1925–1926. The Baha'i Publishing Company, New York. $1.

THE PATH OF LEARNING. By Henry W. Holmes and Burton P. Fowler. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. $1.50.

DISCOVERING JESUS. By William G. Ballantine. The Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. $1.

THE GOSPEL OF OPPORTUNITY. By Charles E. Schofield. The Abingdon Press, New York. $1.25.

CAN THE CHURCHES UNITE? A SYMPOSIUM. Published under the Auspices of the World Conference on Faith and Order. The Century Company, New York. $1.25.

THE LAST OF THE GNOSTIC MASTERS. By Thomas Sawyer Spivey. Published and Distributed by Thomas Sawyer Spivey, Beverly Hills, Cal. $2.50.

AMERICAN ORATIONS. Studies in American Political History. 2 vols. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

New Oxford Books

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Financial Department

Conducted by WILLIAM LEAVITT STODDARD

The Financial Department is prepared to furnish information regarding standard investment securities, but cannot undertake to *advise* the purchase of any specific security. It will give to inquirers facts of record or information resulting from expert investigation, and a nominal charge of one dollar per inquiry will be made for this special service. The Financial Editor regrets that he cannot undertake the discussion of more than five issues of stocks or bonds in reply to any one inquirer. All letters should be addressed to THE OUTLOOK FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, 120 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y.

Listed on the Boston Curb

IN the interest of helping to spread bad but important news, we take great pleasure in calling to the attention of our readers the fact that the Boston Curb Exchange, long a suspected institution, is now very generally discredited, and that official steps have been taken which will probably lead either to its reformation or destruction.

To a great many of our readers this information will undoubtedly come with a shock of surprise. The name "Boston" connotes conservatism and respectability. The words "Curb Exchange" are less reassuring, but the prefixing of "Boston" thereto takes the sting out.

The New York Curb is a well-known and respectable in-

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stitution, and those who are not familiar with what they suppose to be its Boston counterpart often consider that the Boston Curb is equally responsible.

In what follows we do not wish to overstate the case, and shall therefore follow a careful report which has been issued by the National Better Business Bureau, Incorporated. The general facts of the situation have been known for some time and an agitation against the "uncurbed curb" has been in progress. Certain high-grade newspapers which published daily Boston Curb quotations have ceased to do so, and many brokerage houses of excellent standing have declined to execute or deliver orders for stocks listed on the Boston Curb. The purpose of these actions is obvious: the newspapers wish to help curb the Curb and the brokers wish to do their share in the accomplishment of the same end by refraining from dealing with the Curb. The Curb is being placed in chancery.

What is the reason for all this activity? What is the matter with the Boston Curb? Perhaps the best answer that can be given is to quote from a book written some years ago by George Graham Rice, formerly known as Jacob Simon Herzig. Mr. Rice is well known to many names on mailing lists as a promoter of mining stocks. Mr. Rice said:

"In 'jobs' of this kind the promoters have at heart no pretense of a permanent property, a permanent investment, or a permanent deal, or even a square deal. They take a crude mining or oil prospect or some new industry, raw and untried, that would be a crass gamble at genuine prospect price, at a few pennies a share. Often the properties are not even *owned*, as in this case; only options are held. The object is to unload in a 'quick job' a great quantity of the stock at high prices. . . . While the 'job' is on for a few weeks, the stock is listed on some minor Exchange and quotations are marked up to attract attention. This is very easy, as there is no stock out and quotations can be marked up to anything to a fare-ye-well. The promoters have neither finances nor the intention to buy back any stock in quantity later on, after they have unloaded. Attracted by the seeming activity and rising prices and publicity, the public listens to reason, as it thinks, but it is not *reason* that it listens to. It listens to a battery of *'dynamiters,'* as they are called. The 'dynamiter' is an expert high-pressure stock salesman who generally sells from the promoter's office over the telephone. . . . With the small fly-by-night 'quick job' swindling promoter, the stock prices asked by the dynamiters are generally 12–to–50 or 100 times what the stock may be worth. . . . The rest of the stock is usually tied up 'in escrow' so that it cannot be dumped on the jobber. He is interested in *selling* his stock, *not buying* any in the market. It is the usual rule in the back alleys of Wall Street that such escrow stock, *if good*, sells at 8 cents on the dollar. . . . In other words, the quotation is normally ballooned at least twelvefold in a *good* promotion by the usual dynamiter's methods. Of course, a few purchasers of the stock may want to sell for one reason or another, or maybe for no reason at all. The promoter tries to dissuade them from selling. Naturally, he does not want to buy their stocks at $1 or over, after selling it to them for less, paying his dynamiters, etc., and when his stock is worth only 8 cents or less. If the jobber cannot dissuade sellers, and if they insist on selling, he is compelled to buy to maintain the market. He will only buy back a few shares, and then only provided and so long as he can *sell much more*. If he cannot sell *much more* than he is compelled to buy in, he quits buying in, keeps 'his' money, folds up his tent, and steals away, and the market vamooses."

From this it will be seen that a subservient stock exchange is a valuable asset to promoters who are making money by devious devices. If an exchange can be found which "listens well," so much the better.

Possibly some who read these lines may have followed, to their cost or profit, a selling campaign on the Boston Curb in which Idaho Copper was run up from 54 cents to $6.25 a share. In the course of this campaign long-distance telephone calls, telegrams, and other instruments of excitement were freely employed. In order to inspire confidence, people were urged to place their orders through their own brokers. A good many brokerage houses of established name have since refused to become even innocent parties to such drives. Idaho Copper, it need hardly be said now, is a corporation which owns an inactive and unproductive mine. It is without earnings or dividends—an ideal "security" for the purpose.

A bulletin of the National Better Business Bureau, Incorporated, of March 17, 1927, gives a number of very interesting facts about the Boston Curb Exchange. We would suggest that those who are still interested after reading this article send for it. The address is 383 Madison Avenue, New York City.

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By the Way

THE following three-part story is taken from the Kansas City "Star" of recent date:

"Time was when young ladies from Boston traveling alone carried a copy of the 'Atlantic Monthly' conspicuously as a protective device to discourage familiarities by drummers and other satyrs of the road," observes Edwin Valentine Mitchell in Book Notes.—*The Star's Book Page.*

The older version was better, don't you think? The spinster from Boston, who said, "When I am lonely on the train, I search among the passengers until I find a man reading the Boston Transcript.' Then I know I have found a gentleman."—*Starbeams.*

But we always liked best the still older form: Prying gossips were sounding out the drayman about some new neighbors. "Oh," he replied, "they are very nice people—they take The Outlook."—*Abilene "Reflector."*

A good-natured traveler asked a Pullman porter the amount of his average tip. The porter replied that the average was one dollar. The man thereupon handed him a dollar bill. The Negro caressed the bill affectionately and said: "Yassuh, boss; but you is the fust pusson what has come up to the average."

"How did you enjoy your travels?"

"I had a perfectly wonderful time."

"Won't you tell me about them? Were you in Paris, London, Berlin?"

"I really couldn't tell you. You see, my husband bought all the tickets."

Arthur Warner, writing in the "Nation," gives the following figures of the number of passengers from and to Atlantic ports (Canada included) for 1926:

Westbound		Eastbound
95,000	First-class	92,000
100,000	Cabin-class	75,000
117,000	Second-class	69,000
36,000	Tourist third-class	43,000
313,000	Third-class	152,000
661,000		431,000

In 1925 only 20,000 persons booked tourist third-class from the Atlantic ports. Notice how the number has more than doubled.

"Doctor, would you-all mind holding the autopsy now, so's when ah dies ah knows what killed me?"

These wonderful statistics! They tell us now that Colleen Moore, movie star, gets 15,000 "fan letters" every month; Clara Bow, 11,000; and Mary Pickford only 2,000. Lon Chaney, strange to say, leads the male list for letter totals, with John Gilbert and Richard Dix close behind. Ten per cent of this mail comes from people of Polish extraction. They want the pictures that are always sent in return. Many of them never go to the films, it is said, and get their information from the posters—but a post-card brings a beautiful picture. These photographs, wrapping, and mailing cost the motion-picture companies twelve cents each. The large companies pay this charge for their prominent stars, but pity the poor independent who has to foot her own expenses in order to keep "her public" contented. George Sidney, Olive Borden, and others set aside $250 weekly for this purpose.

"Little boy, what are you going to be when you grow up?"

"I'm going to be a philanthropist. Those people always seem to have a lot of money."

As E. J. Strong, of "Editor and Publisher," thinks a headline writer would tell his small daughter the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears:

BLONDE TOT ESCAPES FROM TRIO OF BRUINS

CHILD LOST IN WOOD WANDERS INTO BEAR BUNGALOW

SIPS SOUP SET TO COOL, ALLEGING BIG BOWL HOT, MEDIUM COLD, WEE ONE FIT TO EAT

ALSO TRIES CHAIRS, SMASHING ONE

HIBERNATORS DISCOVER TAMPERING ON RETURN FROM STROLL

GIRL CAUGHT TAKING NAP LEAPS THROUGH WINDOW, ESCAPES; ZOO KEEPER QUIZZED

From the Charleston "News and Courier:"

Young Alston had come from his up-country home to visit his Charleston relatives. On being driven around the city, sightseeing, he noticed the white stones at the street corners. "What's those things, auntie?" he asked. "Silent policeman, dear," said auntie, absently. "Why, auntie," exclaimed Alston in a shocked little voice, "do they bury all the policemen in the middle of the street?"

From the New York "Sun:"

The woman, after many years' devotion to old-fashioned rubber overshoes, had finally succumbed to modish, if by no means æsthetic, galoshes. As the salesman tried on a pair of the newest zippers, the woman noted with distaste the great bulge at the top of them. "Haven't you a pair that fit me more snugly?" she asked. "No madam. I'm sorry. They all come one width at the top." "Well, isn't there anything that you could suggest to improve their fit?" "Only that you eat more potatoes, madam," he said with a cordial smile.

"A True Universalist" is the heading "Life" gives the following:

Afternoon caller: "And your husband has become violently religious?"

Mrs. Radionut: "I should say so. Last Sunday he picked up the offertory from Fort Worth, the text from Winnipeg, the sermon from Boston, and the Doxology from San Francisco."

"Your husband, madam, is suffering from voluntary inertia."

"Poor dear! And I accused him all along of being lazy."

A recent article in the New York "World" by Prosper Buranelli explained the disappearance of Mr. Antonio, the organ-grinder man:

"Various factors, it appears, are responsible: the automobile, which has made cranking a hand-organ in the streets an extremely hazardous occupation, as illustrated by the fact that Tony Pagliughi, dean of our local organ grinders, was killed by a truck after many years of service; prohibition, which has done away with the kindly bartender, always willing to give a musician a glass of beer and a snack of free lunch; Mussolini, who came to the conclusion that organ-grinder men made Italy ridiculous and gave orders that they are to be refused passports. Thus a noble band that numbered between one and two hundred a few years ago has been reduced to a pitiful fourteen, and even these, probably, will be gone in another few seasons."

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The Outlook Classified Department

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